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GOLDEN TIME CHAPTER 1

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ゴールデンタイム

GOLDEN TIME

1 Volume One

GOLDEN TIME ゴールデンタイム

Based on novel by Yuyuko Takemiya
Cartoon by Umechazuke
Original character design by E-JI KOMATSU
DENGEKI COMICS

V O L U M E O N E

Story: Takemiya Yuyuko
Art: Umechadzuke

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STORY

Starting college! Living alone for the first time!

Dreaming of a wonderful college student life, Tada Banri came to Tokyo full of expectations.

At the same time, coming from a famous preparatory high school, for some reason, Yanagisawa Mitsuo was admitted into the same college as Banri.

A beauty too perfect, with an overwhelming princess-like aura.

Although it's "disappointing" in a lot of ways, she is Mitsuo's childhood friend Kaga Kouko.

The day the university begins, Banri and Kouko suddenly meet, or rather, collide.

Banri's college student life since meeting the two of them, will it get to shine? Or will it...?

1 GOLDENTIME

Based on novel by Yuyuko Takemiya • Cartoon by Umechazuke • Original character design by E-JI KOMATSU

GOLDEN TIME

ゴールデンタイム

Based on novel by Yuyuko Takemiya

Cartoon by Umechazuke

Original character design by K-ZA KOMATSU

1

DENGEKI COMICS

Volume one

ゴールデンタイム

GOLDEN TIME

1

Volume One

Story: Takemiya Yuyuko

Art: Umechadzuke

Published by ASCII MEDIA WORKS

C321-1

Dengeki Comics

Sao-chan, Shii-chan's Goukon Service!
Bowling time Course!
SFX: WHOOSH
THEN SHOOT!
SFX: RUMBLE
THE RANGE ENOUGH FOR ABOUT 3 ROLLS IS THE BEST ONE.
THE DISTANCE WITH THE PIN IS ABOUT 5 METERS.
5m
PREPARE YOUR-SELF TO BOWL.
FIRST OF ALL, ASK THE PERSON YOU LIKE TO PLAY AS A PIN.
NO MIS-TAKE, THE GOUKON WILL BE A SUPER HIT!
SHII-CHAN! YOU SMELL NICE!
SFX: PUSHED IN
STRIKE!

Story: Takemiya Yuyuko • Art: Umechadzuke • Character design: Komatsu E-ji

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THE SEASON WHEN SAKURA PETALS DANCE IN THE AIR
SPRING
SFX: VROOM
AND I, TADA BANRI,
AM BUT A NAÏVE UNIVERSITY FRESHMAN.
WITH A PREMONI-TION THAT SOME-THING IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN!
ROSES IN A CAR...?

GOLDEN TIME
ゴールデンタイム
Chapter 1: In the Hand of Fate, Roses

SFX: WANDERING AROUND

HMM, IF YOU LOOK AT IT OBJECTIVELY,
I'M QUITE...
NO... ACTUALLY...
I DWON'T KNOW HOW TO GWET TO MY DEPWARTMENT...
...UM?
CUUD IT HEE...
WE'RE GOGNG TO THE SAME UNIHERSITY...?
WHAT'S WRONG?
THAT ENVELOPE...

HUH?
SAME HERE.

...AH!

I ALSO DIDN'T KNOW MY WAY AROUND, SO I FOLLOWED SOME PEOPLE WHO LOOKED LIKE THEY KNEW WHERE THEY WERE GOING AND ENDED UP HERE.
And then I got lost.
NO WAY!?
For real?

HAHA! WHAT WAS THAT FOR?
WE SOMEHOW JUST BECAME "DID THE SAME THING" BUDDIES.

I'M TADA BANRI
THE "TADA" IS FROM, "A LOT OF PADDY FIELDS" AND MY FIRST NAME IS "THOUSANDS OF MILES". "BANRI", NOT "MARI"
JUST "BANRI" IS FINE. I'M FROM THE LAW DEPARTMENT.
I'M YANAGISAWA MITSUO. "YANAGI" AS IN "WILLOW" AND "SAWA" AS IN THE ONE THAT IS HARD TO WRITE, "MITSU" IN "LIGHT" AND "O" IN "CENTER".
YOU CAN JUST CALL ME MITSUO WITHOUT ANY HONORIFICS, OR JUST YANA.
THAT'S GREAT! I'M ALSO FROM THE LAW DEPARTMENT!
DID YOU COME DIRECTLY FROM HIGH SCHOOL?
NOPE, I'M STARTING ONE YEAR LATE, SO HOW ABOUT YANASSAN?
YANASSAN? WAIT, YOU'RE OLDER THAN ME!?
...IS THAT SO? I CAN'T TELL, BUT WHATEVER.

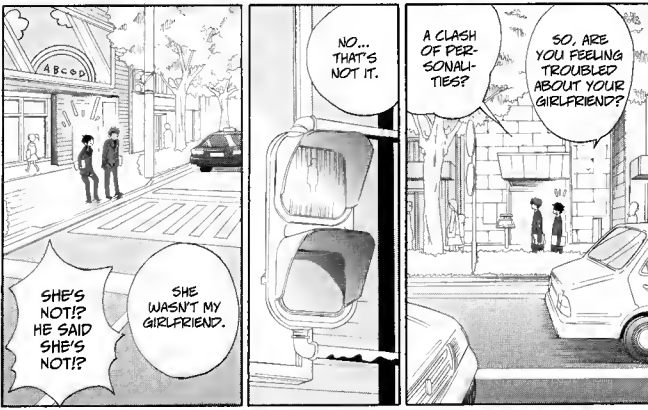
I DON'T MIND BUT...
CAN WE USE CASUAL SPEECH?
OF COURSE.
It's easier that way
ARE YOU FROM TOKYO?
SHIZUOKA*.
*JAPAN PREFECTURE NEAR TOKYO
SFX: STOPS
I STARTED LIVING BY MYSELF YESTERDAY.
AH. I'M ALSO LIVING BY MYSELF.
SERIOUSLY!?
SFX: TING
IF THAT'S THE CASE, LET'S CELEBRATE OUR MOVING OUT.
Wouldn't we be late then!?
It'll be alright.
YEAH, FREEDOM!
HERE WE COME!!

IT'S THE BEGINNING OF MAIN STREET!
There's someone holding the same envelope!
HEY...
HUH?
THIS IS...
IT'S JUST THAT THERE WAS NO ONE TO TALK TO BEFORE.
I WAS WORRIED SINCE OTHER PEOPLE SEEM TO HAVE ALREADY MADE FRIENDS
I THOUGHT SO TOO.
ESPECIALLY SINCE I HAVEN'T FELT LIKE I WAS IN A FOREIGN LAND FOR A LONG TIME, AS I'VE GONE TO AN AFFILIATED SCHOOL SINCE PRIMARY.

YEAH "A" PRIVATE PRIMARY.
Have you heard of it?
YOU WENT TO AN AFFILIATED SCHOOL...?
WHAT? THAT SUPER PRESTIGIOUS SCHOOL!? WHY DIDN'T YOU STAY THERE FOR UNIVERSITY!?
Seriously!
WAH!
ISN'T IT BETTER TO JUST CONTINUE ON ITS ESCALATOR SYSTEM?
HMM?
HMM...

S-SORRY, EVEN THOUGH I DON'T KNOW THE CIRCUM-STANCES, I...
That...
I'M AN IDIOT, I'M SO DENSE...
NOT AT ALL!
IT'S ALRIGHT.
I JUST WANTED TO START ANEW, SO I DECIDED TO TAKE AN EXTERNAL EXAM.
Eh?
IT'S REALLY NOT AS EX-AGGERATED AS YOU THINK!
I JUST GOT INTO A BIT OF TROUBLE IN A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE OPPOSITE GENDER.
SFX: DEPRESSED
DAMN, I STEPPED ON MY OWN STUPID LAND MINE.
だんっ
Hey...
I BROUGHT BACK YANASSAN'S BAD MEMORIES...

I ALSO WANT THAAAATT, TROUBLE WITH THE OPPOSITE GEND-EEEERR...
WHAT'S THIS, TROUBLE WITH A WOMAN? THAT'S SO COOL!
BANG! BANG! WHAM! WHAM! WOOOOW!
AN AFFAIR!? ILLICIT LOVE!? TELL ME ABOUT IIIIIT...
...WHEW... SO IT'S JUST A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE OPPOSITE GENDER!
HUUUUUH! RELATIONSHIP WITH THE OPPOSITE GENDER!?
TA-DAH!
EXCITED
AS EXPECTED OF YANAS-SAN
EXCITED
?


A B C D
SHE'S NOT!? HE SAID SHE'S NOT!?
SHE WASN'T MY GIRLFRIEND.
NO... THAT'S NOT IT.
A CLASH OF PERSONALITIES?
SO, ARE YOU FEELING TROUBLED ABOUT YOUR GIRLFRIEND?

IT'S ABSOLUTELY NOT SOMETHING GOOD LIKE THAT!
HUH? WHAT WAS IT THEN?
THAT IS...
THAT'S RIGHT...
HOW SHOULD I PUT IT...?
SFX: BANG
SFX: WHOOSH
...A CALAMITY...

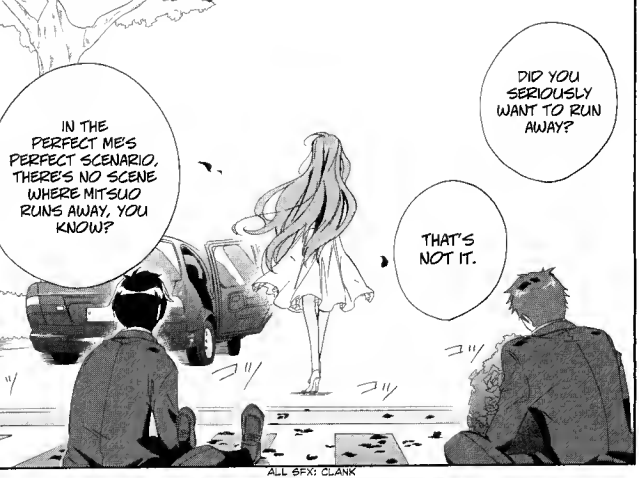
SFX:
CLACK
SFX: SMILE

ALL SFX: CLACK
SFX: SMACK
OUCH!
IT'S COLD!?
WHAT!?
OOMPH!
SFX: SHOVE

SFX: SWOOSH
SFX: SMACK
SFX: SWISH
SFX: SWISH

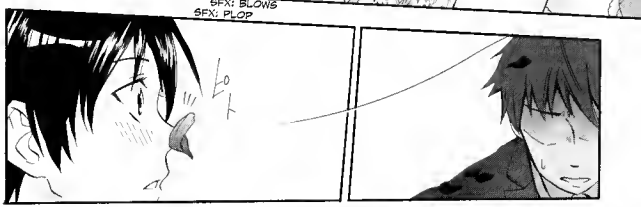
...I REMOVED THE THORNS, OKAY?
SFX: WHAM
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ACCEPTANCE INTO UNIVERSITY!
THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO SAY!

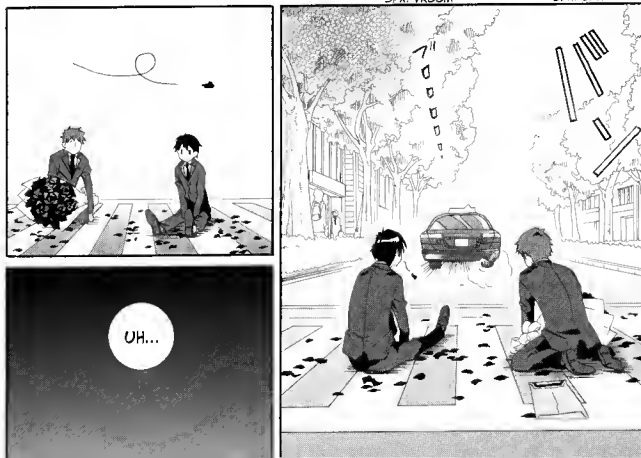
SFX: DROP
NO WAY...
SFX: SHIVER SHIVER
NO WAY...
SFX: TURNS
TO LIE TO ME RIGHT UP UNTIL YOU ENTERED UNIVERSITY...
DID YOU THINK YOU COULD FOOL ME?
YOU'RE SUCH AN IDIOT, MITSUO


IN THE PERFECT ME'S PERFECT SCENARIO, THERE'S NO SCENE WHERE MITSUO RUNS AWAY, YOU KNOW?
DID YOU SERIOUSLY WANT TO RUN AWAY?
THAT'S NOT IT.
コツ
コツ
コツ

ALL SFX: CLANK

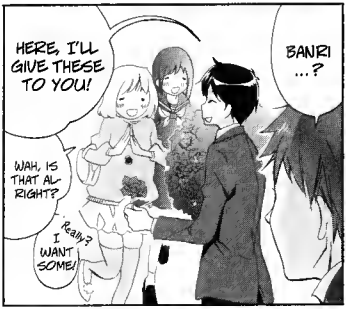
FAREWELL. MAY WE MEET AGAIN.
AND BECAUSE YOU'RE MINE, I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU TRYING ANY UNNECESSARY STRUGGLES AGAIN!
N-NOO WAAY!!
BECAUSE MITSUO WILL ALWAYS BE MINE.


SFX: BLOWS
SFX: PLOP


SFX: VROOM
SFX: BANG
UH...

NO WAY, HE REMINDS ME OF HAM MAN*. I DON'T WANT TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE LIKE THAT!
WHO'S THAT ROSE GUY?
GIGGLE
OUR NEW STUDENTS?
HEHE!
DON'T MIND THEM, WE NEED TO GO OR WE'LL MISS ORIENTATION.

*A REFERENCE TO A MARKETING CAMPAIGN FOR THE MARUDAI FOOD CO.'S HAM IN JAPAN, IN THE YEARS 2000-2005



HEY, WHO WAS THAT PERSON FROM BEFORE? WHAT HAPPENED THERE?
KAGA KOUKO.
I SAVED HER FROM BULLYING WHEN WE WERE KIDS.
A CHILDHOOD PROMISE... CHILDHOOD FRIENDS BOUND BY DESTINY... ISN'T IT SOMETHING ROMANTIC?
SCARY? WHY?
IT WAS REALLY KINDA SCARY...
FROM THEN ON, SHE ONLY HAD ONE DREAM:
"TO MARRY MITSUO!"

I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU.
SPEAKING OF WHICH, SHE WAS REA-LLY BEAUTIFUL.
HER AURA WAS LIKE THAT OF AN ACTRESS.
I...
DON'T UNDERSTAND!
REALLY ...
CLATTER
So close...
CAN'T YOU TELL BY WHAT HAPPENED BEFORE?
BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T ENTER THE SAME UNIVERSITY AS ME...
YOU NEED TO ACT RESPONSIBLY...
Ah
SAY?
SAY?

MITSUO'S VISION
Ha ha ha ha!
I'm gonna torture you...
SERIOUSLY IT'S LIKE A CALAMITY EVERY TIME SHE'S AROUND.
Yep
ズン
SFX: WHAM

*BLOWING SOUND
MITSUO! FUA FUA FUAA!*
MITSUO! THAT'S NOT RIGHT!
MITSUO! THAT ISN'T WRITTEN IN MY SCENARIO!
フッ
SFX: BLEGH

THAT'S HOW IT IS. I DON'T WANT TO DO IT ANY-MORE.

SFX: RUSTLE
KOUKO HAS THIS SCENARIO GOING ABOUT THE "PERFECT HER".
SHE WANTS TO LIVE ACCORDING TO THAT SCENARIO, AND I HAVE TO SOMEHOW GO ALONG WITH IT.

I HAVE.. REMOVED THE T-H-O-R-N-S.
SFX: WIGGLE WIGGLE
SHE DOESN'T GIVE OFF THAT FEELING THOUGH.
IT'S MORE LIKE...
Haa
DO FUA FUA! I TOLD YOU TO DO FUA FUA! MIT'SUOO!
SHE'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL. YOU ONLY JUST MET HER FOR THE FIRST TIME, SO YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.
NO, NO! I ALREADY TOLD YOU SHE'S NOTHING LIKE THAT!
YOU'RE... SUCH AN IDIOT, MIT'SUO... RIGHT?
SFX: SLAM
REALLY? ISN'T THAT JUST A WEIRD PERSON?
LIKE THAT.

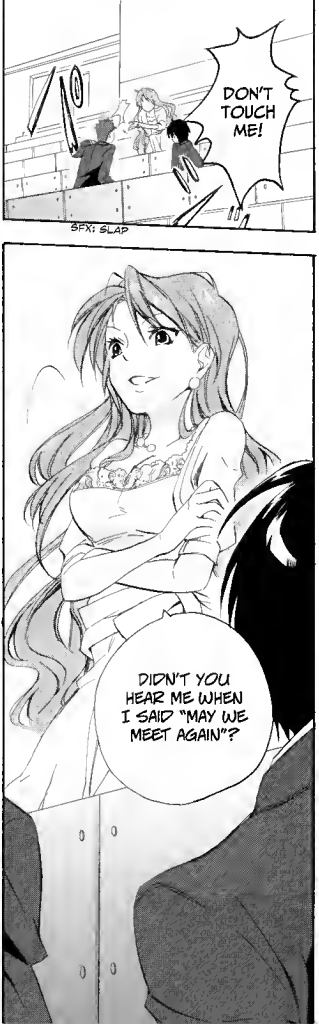
FUAA FUA FUA!
MITSUO! MITSUO! MITSUO! MITSUO!
YOU OVER THERE!
GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF! PLEASE REFRAIN FROM TALKING IN CLASS!
SFX: BAM
.....

BONG
BING
BING
WE GOT IN TROUBLE SO QUICKLY.
SOR-RY

SFX: RUSTLE
So anyhow, I've managed to come here meaning I'll be separated from her for four years.
I won't lose heart over something like that! I'm going to enjoy my university life!
Freeeeedom!
SFX: GRIN
SFX: SWISH
Freeeeedom!
IT'S FINALLY OVER.
THERE'S STILL MORE IN THE AFTERNOON. PEOPLE FROM VARIOUS CLUBS WILL BE ALLOWED TO BEGIN RECRUITING.
SFX: BING BONG BING
MITSUO.

FUA FUA FUA!
FUA~~~~~

W-WHY ARE YOU HERE!!
IT'S ORIENTATION, SO OF COURSE I'M HERE.
LIKE THAT?


DON'T TOUCH ME!
SFX: SLAP
DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME WHEN I SAID "MAY WE MEET AGAIN"?
WHAT A HAPPY FACE!
WE'LL BE STUDYING TOGETHER FOR ANOTHER FOUR YEARS WON'T WE?
WHA...
SFX: OPEN//CLOSE
TSK.
BECAUSE I ALSO ENROLLED HERE.
YOU SHOULD BE HAPPIER. I FOLLOWED YOUR WISHES THIS TIME.

Y-YOU
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SCENARIO?
WEREN'T YOU GOING TO STUDY IN FRANCE, ENTER THE FASHION INDUSTRY AND OTHER STUFF?
INDEED... I HAD TO AMEND MY SCENARIO A BIT, BUT THAT'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
I DECIDED THAT INSTEAD OF FORCING YOU TO DO SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T WANT TO DO,
I'D FOLLOW YOU INSTEAD.
BECAUSE THERE'S NO POINT IF MITSUO ISN'T THERE!
WHEN I LEARNT OF YOUR BETRAYAL AND HOW YOU SECRETLY TOOK AN EXTERNAL EXAM,
I WAS INDEED SURPRISED, BUT.
FRET
HOW DID SHE KNOW WHERE I WANTED TO GO?
FRET
FRET
I TOLD MY FRIENDS NOT TO SAY ANYTHING EITHER...
FRET
I EVEN ASKED THE HOMEROOM TEACHER TO KEEP IT A SECRET...

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE NEW MEDICAL BUILDING THAT WAS BUILT THIS YEAR?
SFX: TURN
THAT IS,
THE KAGA MEMORIAL BUILDING...
MITSUO IS ALSO HAPPY, AREN'T YOU?
...I'M NOT HAPPY AT ALL.
YOU'RE HAPPY RIGHT?
I'M NOT HAPPY AT ALL!
IT'S JUST TROUBLE-SOME!!

MITSUO, SO TO SPEAK, IS AN EXAMPLE OF THAT FAMOUS THING.
TSU
N
DE
RE
SFX: HEEHEE
SFX: CRASH
AH UM...
I'M TADA.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
OOMPH!
ALL SFX: CLACK
SFX: RUNS
AH!
MITSUO RAN AWAY!

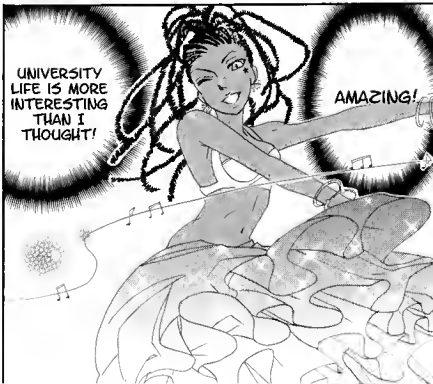
All Alone
SFX: CLACK CLACK
Mitsuo
WELL, WE EXCHANGED E-MAIL ADDRESSES SO I CAN GIVE IT TO HIM LATER
YANAS-SAN...
HIS STUFF...
SFX: GRABS
I HAVE TO JOIN A CLUB NO MATTER WHAT!
THAT'S RIGHT, CAN I JOIN A CLUB...?
IF I WANT TO ENJOY MY UNIVERSITY LIFE.
SFX: RUMBLE RUMBLE
Eh seriously!?
SFX: CHATTER
SFX: OPENS

SFX: WAH
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ADMISSION!!
Bunny Club!
WOW!
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GAGS!?
THE CAMPING RESEARCH SOCIETY IS OVER HERE!
JOIN THE MANGA CLUB, JOIN THE MANGA CLUB!
WHY DON'T YOU JOIN OUR CLUB!

I WANTED TO CHOOSE A CLUB WITH YANASSAN BUT IF IT'S LIKE THIS...
Join our club!
Join our club!
YOU'RE A FRESHMAN AREN'T YOU!?
WE'RE FROM THE TEA CEREMONY CLUB...
ANYHOW, DRINK IT, DRINK IT-! DRINK IT, DRINK IT-!
!?
ALRIGHT! DRINK DRINK DRINK DRINK IT!
SFX: GLOP
MEN ARE WELCOME AS WELL—
AH, HI...
NICE DRINK-ING!
Haah, so bitter!
YEAH, HE'S A GOOD GUY!

SFX: SHOCK
Next!
Okay, next!
BEEP!!

IF I'M HERE,
AMAZING THINGS WILL DEFINITELY HAPPEN IN MY LIFE AS WELL!

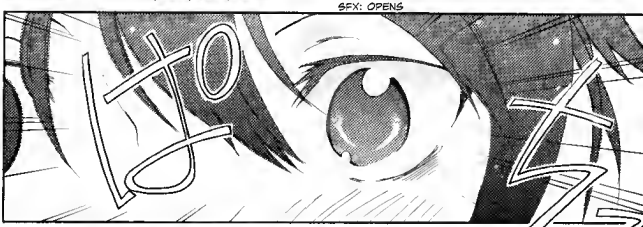

UNIVERSITY LIFE IS MORE INTERESTING THAN I THOUGHT!
AMAZING!

THE DAYS I FRUITLESSLY CHASED AFTER
A PHANTOM OF MY LOST SELF HAVE...
BECOME SOMEONE NEW.
I'LL DEFINITELY...

COME TO AN END.
COMPLETELY
IT'S DAZZLING...
DAYS THAT SHINE SO BRIGHTLY,
WHEN I OPEN MY EYES, SURELY, THERE'LL BE AN AMAZING NEW WORLD...
FUN AND MERRY.
I WANT TO FALL IN LOVE.
AND BEFORE LONG, I'LL ALSO FALL IN LOVE.

SFX: CLASH CLASH

SFX: OPENS

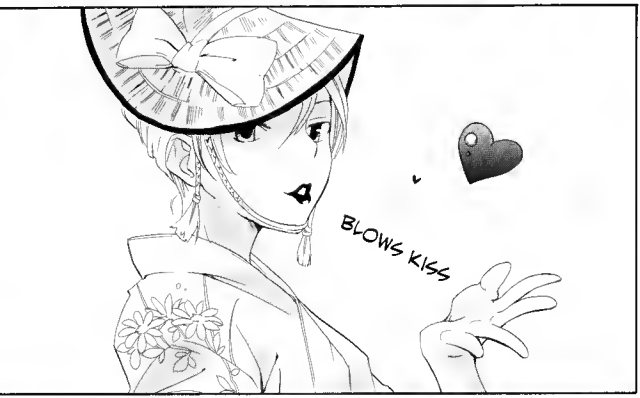


ALL SFX: CLATTER

HEY, YOU!
I'LL BE LEAVING NOW.
SOME-ONE'S CAUGHT IN THAT.
AH, HE CAN'T GET OUT
Bani
SFX: CLATTER
IS IT IMPOS-SIBLE TO ES-CAPE?
PAINFUL...
SFX: PULLS
EH...?
...

AH...
WHAT'S AN AMATEUR LIKE YOU DOING IN THERE?
1ST YEAR? WHAT DEPART-MENT?
I'M TADA FROM THE BANRI.
LAW DEPART-MENT
I'M LINDA.
This is a braided hat.
UM!
WELL, SEE YA!
MY NAME IS HAYASHIDA, SO YOU CAN CALL ME LINDA, I'M A 2ND YEAR.
Linda...?
Oh...

EH...
HUH? WHY DOES IT SEEM LIKE SHE DOESN'T PLAN ON STOPPING...?
UM
AH?
ER
YOUR LIPSTICK IS REALLY PRETTY...
CRAP, THAT SOUNDED BAD.


BLOWS KISS

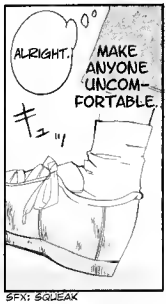
.....
WOW...
EXCIT-ING...

SINCE THAT STORM-LIKE 1ST DAY, A WEEK HAS PASSED,
AND I'VE GOTTEN USED TO THE SCHOOL.
SFX: CHATTER
SFX: CHATTER
AH!
THE CLUBS ARE STILL INVITING MEMBERS TODAY.
How long will this go on for?
BUT
IT'S KAGA-SAN.
IT SEEMS LIKE THERE'S AN AIR BUBBLE WHERE SHE'S STANDING.
IT'S AS IF SHE'S A FLOWER THAT BLOOMED WHILST UNCARED FOR...

NO... NO MATTER WHAT THEY DID, THEY COULDN'T APPROACH HER, SO THEY GAVE UP TRYING.
BANRI'S VISION
Too bright!
BANRI'S VISION
IT BECOMES DIFFICULT TO APPROACH HER.
WITH THAT KIND OF AURA,
BANRI'S VISION
SFX: BANG
Smooth Bun Crab
SFX: SHINES
SFX: SWISH

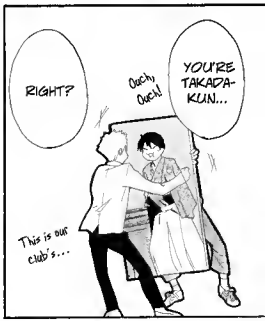
BUT...
Yeah, yeah!
Ha Ha Ha!
Eh? That's amazing!
ALL SFX: CHATTER

BEING ALONE WILL...



SFX: SQUEAK

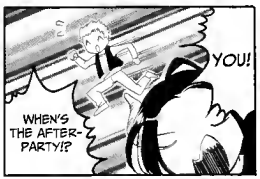
SFX: SMILES



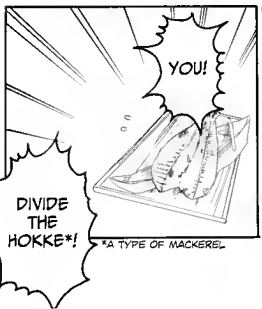
キョロ キョロ
THAT'S RIGHT.
HI, TADA-KUN!
SFX: LOOKS AROUND
I WAS JUST WONDERING WHAT YOU WERE DOING ALL BY YOURSELF.
IT'S TADA, TADA BANRI.
Ovvv...
YANASSAN'S AT A NEW MEMBER'S MEETING...
WHERE?
SFX: DRAWS CLOSER, DRAWS BACK
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS?
I CAN'T SAY.
FOR YANASSAN'S SAKE.
THAT...
SFX: SHOCK
ビク

Tada eating!
THIS WEEK I WENT TO A NEW MEMBER DRINKING PARTY WITH VARIOUS CLUBS' MEMBERS.
WITH YANAS-SAN
M-
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY, LISTEN TO THIS!
Tada drinking!
GLUG
?
WE EVEN WENT TO AN UNBELIEV-ABLE CLUB'S DRINKING PARTY!

GUYS, HAND OVER THE PITCHER!!!
It seems fun...
Yeah~


YOU!
WHEN'S THE AFTER-PARTY!?

YOU! POUR!!


YOU!
DIVIDE THE HOKKE*!
*A TYPE OF MACKEREL

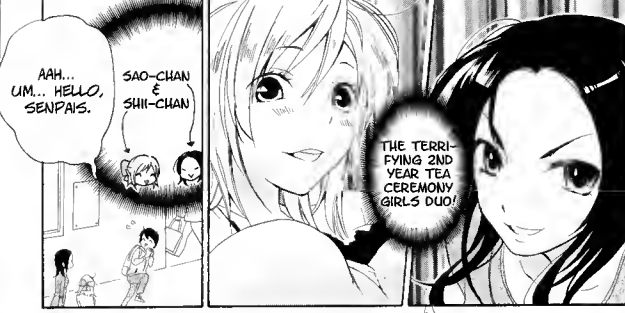
AND THAT WAS THE TEA CEREMONY CLUB!
WELCOME!

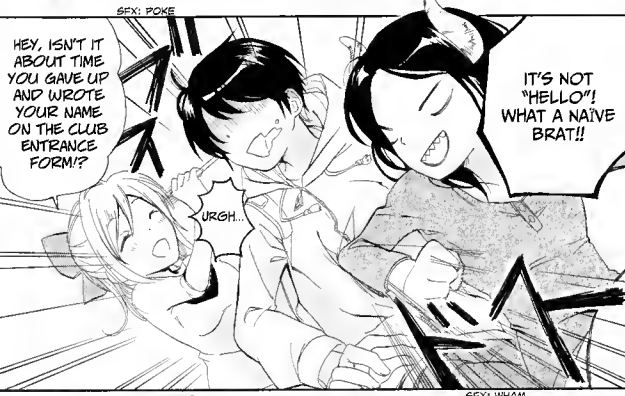
LOOK, THE TEA CEREMONY CLUB ISN'T BORING, IS IT!!
NEE-SAN, WHAT A NICE SMELL!!
SFX: YAAA
SFX: GLOMP
SFX: ROLLS

SCARY ISN'T IT?
AND THAT'S HOW IT WENT.

I ALSO GOT THIS SPARKLY MESSAGE FROM A MALE SENPAI...
YOU KNOW...

HUH?
DID YOU JUST SAY SOMETHING?
SFX: CRACK
SFX: SMILES
HEY IT'S TADA BANRI!
THEN I'LL BE..
?
AH... NO... NOTHING...
SFX: GRABS
SFX: EEK
WE'RE ALSO GOING FOR A DRINK TODAY! YOU'RE COMING TOO, R-I-G-H-T?
Infidelity!?
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GOING TO ANOTHER NEW MEMBER'S PARTY TODAY?
がし!
ひっ


AAH... UM... HELLO, SENPAIS.
SAO-CHAN & SHII-CHAN
THE TERRIFYING 2ND YEAR TEA CEREMONY GIRLS DUO!


SFX: POKE
HEY, ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME YOU GAVE UP AND WROTE YOUR NAME ON THE CLUB ENTRANCE FORM!?
URGH...
IT'S NOT "HELLO"! WHAT A NAÏVE BRAT!!
SFX: WHAM

I have yet...
to be introduced.
SMILES
SIGH

YOU WERE WITH SOMEONE.
AH, SORRY.
THEY LEFT BEFORE I HAD TO JOIN THEIR CLUB...
SEE YOU LATER TADA BANRI-
See ya!
BOING!
COME TO OUR DRINK-ING PARTY AGAIN SOME-TIME WHEN YOU FEEL UP TO IT.

SFX: TURNS
HEY, TADA-KUN.
...WHAT WAS THAT?
WHAT DID YOU THINK? JUST NOW...

JUST NOW...
WAH, SO PRETTY!, WHAT A NICE SMELL!
HUH?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.
IT WAS THE TEA CEREMONY SENPAIS JUST THEN?
SFX: CLACK CLACK
EH... UH?
T-THEY'RE SAO-CHAN AND SHII-CHAN...
I DON'T WANT TO KNOW WHAT THEY'RE CALLED EITHER.
SFX: PUSHES

...ANSWER ME TRUTHFULLY.
LEAVING MITSUO ASIDE,
HUH?
WHAT DOES... TADA-KUN THINK OF ME...?
HUH? H-HUH!?

Chapter 2: Many, Many, Many Club Invitations

TADA-KUN...
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ME?
HOW MANY CLUB INVITATIONS HAVE YOU RECEIVED SINCE YOU ENROLLED?
HOW...

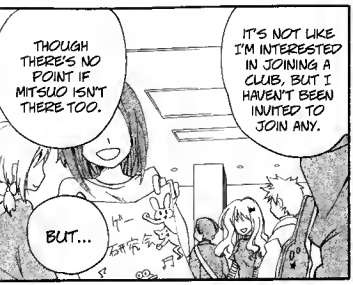
HMM? CLUBS?
ANSWER ME!
UM, AH, OK! HOW MANY...
UM, AH... IF YOU MEAN MEETINGS FOR NEW MEMBERS... THEN 5 OR 6... BUT THEN THE TIMES I LEFT RIGHT AWAY, OR DISCRETELY SLIPPED IN DURING THE AFTERPARTY... UM...
That and that...
I'VE REALLY ATTENDED A LOT OF RECRUITMENT PARTIES THIS WEEK...
With Yanagisawa
SFX: FLICK
DOES THAT MEAN QUITE A LOT?
HMM, I'M NOT SURE WHAT TO CONSIDER AS RECRUITMENT.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO COUNT...
WHO'S KAGA-SAN, LOU OOSHIBA*?
LIKE THIS MANY, MANY, MANY?

*A JAPANESE STAND-UP COMEDIAN AND ACTOR

すぽ
?
SFX: SLIPS
LOOKS AROUND...
I'VE...

HAD ZERO!
INHALES
WS
SFX: SHUDDER

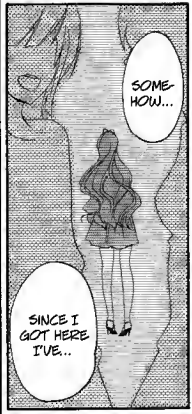
WAA-AAH
...WHY IS IT THAT YOU'RE NOT TELLING ANYONE ELSE BUT ME?
SFX: STEP

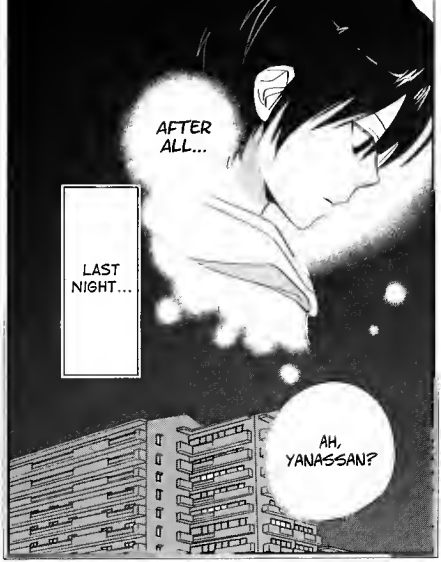

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M INTERESTED IN JOINING A CLUB, BUT I HAVEN'T BEEN INVITED TO JOIN ANY.
THOUGH THERE'S NO POINT IF MITSUO ISN'T THERE TOO.
BUT...

EVEN THOUGH

FELT LIKE I'VE BECOME TRANSPAR-ENT...
IN FRONT OF MITSUO,
AND IN FRONT OF OTHERS, I'VE NOTICED I AM BEING IGN

SFX: THROB


SOME-HOW...
SINCE I GOT HERE I'VE...


AFTER ALL...
LAST NIGHT...
AH, YANASSAN?

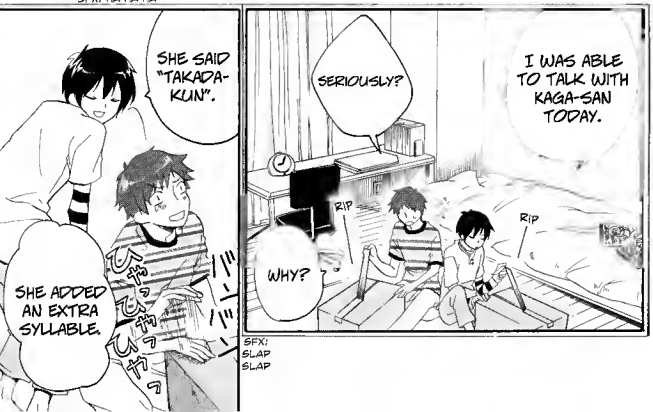
SMILE!

I DON'T WANT TO
LIE TO THIS PERSON ...

MY FAMILY HAS JUST SENT ME A CARE PACK-AGE,
YOU TOLD ME YOU COULDN'T FIND A JOB, SO HOW'S IT GOING NOW?
WELL, I'M MANAGING SOMEHOW.
I'LL BE THERE SOON.
BEEP
YOU CAN COME TOMOR-W

SFX: BING BONG BING BONG BING BONG

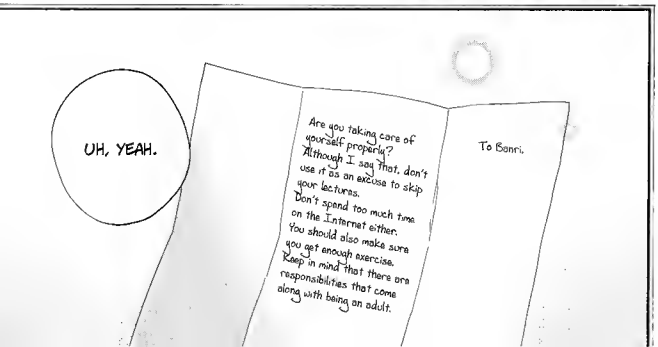
SFX: HA HA HA



SHE DOESN'T CARE ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE, AND SHE ONLY THINKS OF HERSELF.
WELL, THAT'S JUST HOW SHE IS.
That makes "I" the only correct part
SO I TOLD HER,
SIGH
"I'M NOT TAKADA", AND SHE GOES "OH, SORRY TANAKA-KUN".
ALRIGHT, LET'S OPEN THIS BABY UP! WHAT KIND OF TREASURE AWAITS US?
SO I TOLD HER, "I'LL GIVE YOU A HINT, IT'S 2 SYLLABLES."
TWO SYLLABLES... KAGA-KUN!?
How's that?
"THAT'S YOUR NAME", I SAID.
...HEY! LOOK, BANRI!!
WAIT A SEC, HOW DO YOU KNOW MY MOTHER'S NAME...?
MIEKO-CHAN, YOU'RE AMAZING! NICE CHOICES!!
Chuckle
Chuckle

I LOVE YOU, MIEKO!
OH.
THAT ASIDE, CHECK THIS OUT! THERE'S SO MUCH TREASURE HERE, IT MAKES ME WANT TO CRY...
I SAW THE SENDER'S NAME ON THE VOUCHER.
Ah.

WHAT DOES IT SAY? "SHARE EVERYTHING WITH YOUR FRIENDS"?
From Mom
YOU HAVE A LETTER AS WELL.
SFX: RUSTLE


UH, YEAH.
To Banri,
Are you taking care of yourself properly? Although I say that, don't use it as an excuse to skip your lectures.
Don't spend too much time on the Internet either.
You should also make sure you get enough exercise.
Keep in mind that there are responsibilities that come along with being an adult.

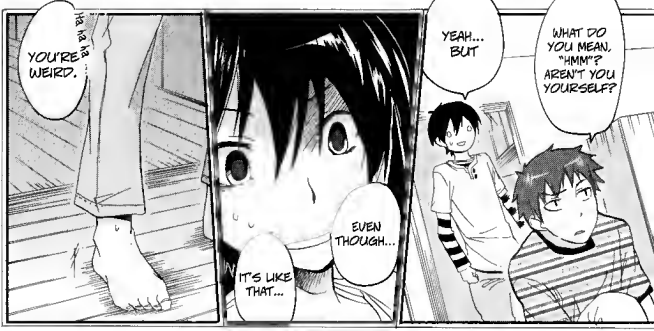
HEY YANASSAN, WOULD YOU MIND NOT TOUCHING THAT PERSON'S STUFF?
AH!
カタ
HUH?
Shoyu Ramen
Miso Ramen
IS THAT SO...
SATOU-SAN IS A SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL PERSON, SO HE PROBABLY WOULDN'T SHARE WITH SOMEONE LIKE YOU, YANASSAN...

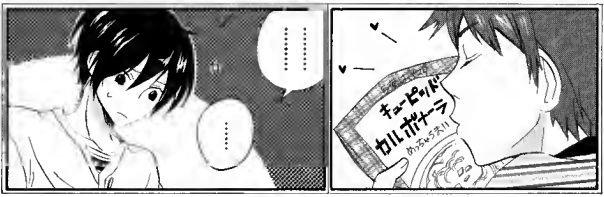
SFX: RATTLE

Yay
Ramen
AH!
Hmm
WELL, HOW ABOUT YOUR RAMEN? HOW MANY CAN I HAVE? THERE ARE 5 BAGS WITH 4 PACKETS IN EACH, WHICH COMES TO A TOTAL OF 20.
PROBABLY 5 AT MOST...
YOU CAN TAKE HALF OF IT... I'LL GIVE YOU THE COOKIES TOO...

NO WAY!? I'LL TAKE IT THEN! BUT WHY!?
Yay!
I FELT SORRY FOR YOU AFTER SEEING ALL THOSE MOSQUITO BITES ON YOUR ARM.. EVEN THOUGH IT'S APRIL.
Isn't it?
IT WAS REALLY ITCHY BEFORE.
Yay!
YOU KNOW DOING THAT HAS THE OPPOSITE EFFECT?
It said so on TV
IS THAT SO? NO WAY! I USED TO DO THAT ALL THE TIME WHEN I WAS A KID.
HOW ABOUT YOU, BANRI? DID YOU ALSO DO THAT WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER?

SFX: POKE POKE


WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "HMM"? AREN'T YOU YOURSELF?
YEAH... BUT
EVEN THOUGH...
IT'S LIKE THAT...
HA HA HA...
YOU'RE WEIRD.


キューピッド
カルボナーラ

ACTU-ALLY...
I
HMM?
I CAN'T HEAR YOU.
A WHILE BACK...

Hey!
Hey!
MITSUO! ♡
GROSS—
Was the seriousness from before for real?—
I should stop.
SFX: SUDDEN MOVEMENT
SFX: SWALLOW

KAGA-SAN ASKED FOR YOUR COMPLETE SCHEDULE.
SFX: DROPS
I THOUGHT ABOUT GOING, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I WAS RIGHT NOT TO.
AHH, IN SPORTS STUDIES?
ANYWAY, LET'S GET BACK TO WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT BEFORE. WELL, I MET KAGA-SAN IN FIRST PERIOD TODAY.
RUSTLE RUSTLE

SFX: HOLDS OUT

STOP IT, THAT'S NOTHING LIKE HER.
"AT THIS RATE, COMING TO THE SAME UNIVERSITY AS MITSUO WOULD BE MEANINGLESS."
LIKE THAT.
HE RUNS AWAY WHEN HE SEES ME.
SINCE SHE WASN'T MAKING ANY PROGRESS, SHE TOLD ME THAT IF YOU REGISTERED FOR A COURSE I SHOULD LET HER KNOW ABOUT IT.
.....
OF COURSE, I CUT HER OFF STRAIGHT AWAY.
THEN SHE SAID, "I WON'T TELL ANYONE YOU TOLD ME."
SHE'S THAT KIND OF WOMAN, THAT KOUKO.
Irked

WELL, SERIOUSLY, WHEN I HEARD THAT...
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF FACE I MADE.
BUT KAGA-SAN SEEMED TO UNDERSTAND WHAT I MEANT...
GETS UP
SFX: GETS UP
STEP
STEP
STEP
THUD
WELL, SEE YOU LATER THEN.

SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANYONE ELSE TO TALK TO, DOES SHE...
WELL, I DON'T HAVE ANYONE EITHER.
Because I pushed everyone away myself.
SFX: WHISPER

SFX: STARTLED

ALL SFX: CLACK

SFX: SMILES

SFX: CLATTER

AFTER THAT,
THAT PERSON'S ALWAYS WEARING BRAND NAME CLOTHING.
I WONDER IF HER PARENTS ARE RICH, OR IF SHE'S DOING TRICKS...*
DIDN'T A GUY BUY IT FOR HER?
* A SEX ACT PERFORMED BY A PROSTITUTE FOR MONEY. (FROM THE ONLINE SLANG DICTIONARY)
Eeh?
No way...
IF IT'S KAGA-SAN, I CAN SEE IT HAPPENING ...
WELL SHE SEEMED...
QUITE PITIFUL...
.....
WHAT?

WHAT? ARE YOU FEELING SORRY FOR KOUKO?
JUST A BIT, JUST A LITTLE BIT.
IF YOU'D SEEN WHAT HAPPENED, YOU'D FEEL A BIT...
NOT AT ALL.
SFX: CRUSH
BUT...
REEE-ALLY!!
BEAUTI-FUL PEOPLE HAVE IT EASY!!
SFX: HAH

NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO,
AS LONG AS SHE SHOWS A LITTLE OF A FACE LIKE THAT,
PEOPLE WILL THINK, "POOR THING, POOR THING"!!
SFX: THROWS THROWS
YOU ALSO HAD ROSES THROWN AT YOU, DIDN'T YOU!?
WE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO HER, BUT SHE USED THAT PAINFUL THING TO HURT US AS MUCH AS SHE COULD.
DID YOU NOT GET ANGRY AT HER JUST BECAUSE SHE WAS PRETTY!?
WOULD YOU DO THE SAME THING IF AN UGLY GIRL DID THAT TO YOU!?
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF SOMEONE WITH AN AWFUL LOOKING FACE ATTACKED YOU!?
YOU'D BE LIKE, "WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!"

IF A SHIT-FACED GIRL WAS THE ONE CAUSING ME TROUBLE,
WOULD YOU STILL BE ABLE TO SAY THAT SHE WAS PITIFUL!?
SFX: POINT
HUFF
HUFF
...IN THE END, IT'S JUST SOME-ONE ELSE'S BUSINESS FOR YOU GUYS.
HUFF
"IT'S OK BECAUSE SHE'S PRETTY"? "I'M SO ENVI-OUS!"?
WHY DON'T YOU BECOME ME, AND SEE FOR YOUR-SELF?

YOU'RE ALL SO EASY TO TRICK.
ALL OF YOU.
I DIDN'T SAY THAT, I KEPT QUIET BECAUSE IT WAS YANASSAN, YOU KNOW?
RUSTLE
WHAT THE HECK?

BUT I...
AND WHOEVER YANASSAN CHOOSES TO IGNORE IS UP TO YOU, SO I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
スパッ
RUSTLE
EVEN THOUGH I CAN'T DENY THAT I FEEL SORRY FOR HER BECAUSE SHE'S PRETTY...
ギュッ
WHAT I DECIDE IS UP TO ME, ISN'T IT?
SFX: THRUST
SFX: PULLS

WHEN I SEE KAGA-SAN AGAIN,
I PLAN TO TALK TO HER.

I DON'T LIKE HOW I LEFT KAGA-SAN EARLIER TODAY.
YEAH.
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
.....

I WANT TO TELL HER THAT I DON'T PLAN ON REJECTING HER AS A PERSON.
ALTHOUGH I DON'T PLAN ON HELPING KAGA-SAN,
BUT I HAD WANTED TO PUT YANASSAN'S SITUATION FIRST.

I CAN'T HATE OR REJECT SOMEONE FOR THOSE REASONS.
EVEN THOUGH SHE DOESN'T REMEMBER MY NAME...
EVEN THOUGH SHE'S SOMEONE MY FRIEND DETESTS ...
IF IT GOES ON LIKE THIS, IT'LL LEAVE A BAD AFTER-TASTE.

...Well...
CLATTER
OPENS
LET'S STOP THIS. THERE'S NO POINT ARGUING ABOUT KOUKO.
FUMBLE FUMBLE
I'M ME,
AND YOU'RE YOU.
RIGHT?
SLIPS
!
That's...
GIVE ME THIS TOO!
THIS...
WILL BE THE PROOF OF OUR FRIENDSHIP!

TADA-KUN.
...KUN.
CHATTER
AH
SORRY, WHAT'S UP?
CHATTER
SORRY, I WASN'T IGNORING YOU JUST THEN... UM!
IN THE END, WHAT DO I WANT TO DO?
CHATTER
CHATTER
IS KAGA-SAN PITIFUL?
OR IS IT LIKE YANASSAN SAYS, THAT SHE'S JUST ACTING SO SHE CAN GET INFORMATION OUT OF ME...?

TOUCHES
AM I
SFX: PLOP
ぽふっん
REALLY THAT WEIRD...
IS THIS...
...KAGA-SAN...
ACTING?
K-KAGA

NO.
WHICH ONE IS IT?
BUT EVEN SO....
....IS IT PAINFUL?

SFX: APPEARS

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN OUR CLUB?
WHAT'S THIS?

...
STARES
THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST! BUT I'M ACTUALLY NOT A STUDENT OF THIS SCHOOL.
Because I'm a third year from the college for women.
YOU GUYS ARE NEW STUDENTS, RIGHT?
Hah
IT'S WHAT YOU'D CALL, AN "EASYGOING" CLUB.
You'll gain a lot of friends!
IN OUR CLUB, WE GO FLOWER VIEWING IN SPRING, HAVE BBQ'S IN THE SUMMER, COLLECT MAPLE LEAVES IN AUTUMN, AND IN WINTER, WE DRINK ON SNOWBOARDS.
SPARKLES

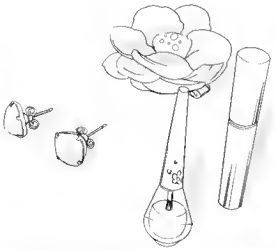
SFX: BOWS BOWS
NO, WE'RE FINE, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
THOUGH YOU DON'T SEEM VERY ENTHUSIASTIC, DO YOU? DID YOU GET SOME BAD MEMORIES FROM OTHER CLUBS?
Hmmm
SFX: THINKS
I SEE. HAVE EITHER OF YOU BEEN TO OTHER RECRUITMENT PARTIES?
AH, UM...
AH, THAT'S RIGHT!
I SEE... WELL, IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW, PLEASE LET ME KNOW!
BY THE WAY, WHAT ARE YOUR NAMES?
If it's alright with you, why don't we go have some tea? It'll be easier to talk that way. Besides, my throat just happens to be feeling dry. It's because I've been recruiting all day... Did you guys know there's this nice little café that not many people know about near the station? You didn't know, did you?
Chatter
Chatter
Chatter
Chatter
Let's go to Café Au Lait Bowl, do you know Café Au Lait Bowl, Tada-kun? Au Lait Bowl.
SFX: ZOOM
AH,
I'M TADA, TADA BANRI.
MY NAME IS KAGA.

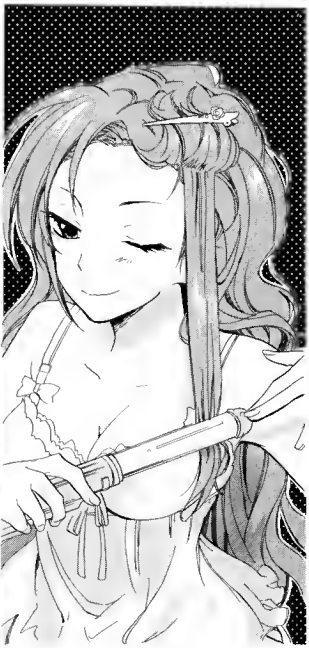
OK, THEN IT'S DECIDED! LET'S GO!!
Here we go!
SPARKLE
!
SFX: SQUEEZES
SFX: RUN
SFX: SQUEEZE

IF IT KEEPS GOING LIKE THIS, SHE MIGHT COME AND GRAB MY HAND AS WELL...
!
HIDES
EH? I DON'T THINK SO AT ALL! IT REALLY SUITS YOU!
AH, SO CUTE! SO PRETTY!
SFX: RUB RUB
AH... YEAH, BUT IT MIGHT BE A BIT TOO GAUDY TO WEAR AT SCHOOL.
SPARKLE
TIFFANY!?
UM, MY HAND...

LET'S GO VIA THE ENTRANCE OVER THERE!
AH... OK.
SFX: DASHES PAST
YEAH...
I'M ALSO QUITE BEWILDERED ...
AND IN THE END, I FOLLOWED ALONG WITHOUT REALLY KNOWING WHY.
BUT,
ISN'T THIS OK?
WHY DON'T YOU GO TRY?

IT'S RARE FOR ME TO BE ABLE TO GO TO A CAFE WITH KAGA-SAN.
Ehehe...
IT'S OKAY, EVEN IF I'M GETTING TRICKED.
AND IT'LL BE KAGA-SAN'S FIRST TIME JOINING A CLUB.
EVEN IF SHE'S JUST PUTTING ON AN ACT TO GET INFORMATION ABOUT YANAS-SAN OUT OF ME...
I WONDER HOW WE CAN MOVE FORWARD.
I WANT TO SAVE KAGA-SAN FROM HER LONELINESS.



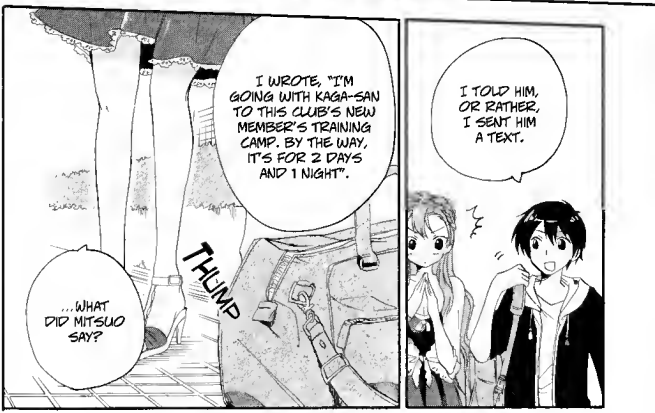


Chapter 3:
Welcome, Neo-Children!

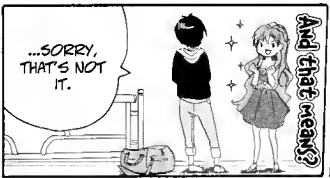
KAGA-SAN.
She remembered!
HELLO, TADA-KUN.
SFX: ROLL ROLL
HAS SENPAI COME YET?
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE IT.
SO PERFECT.
Tada

SHE'S A PERFECT BEAUTY TODAY AS WELL.
KAGA KOU-KO!
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST TELL.
YANA-SSAN
Ta-Da
BUT I THINK SHE'LL BE COMING SOON.
TICK
TICK
TICK
THAT I LIKE PRETTY ONES!

DID YOU TELL MITSUO ABOUT TODAY?
HEY TADA-KUN.
STEP

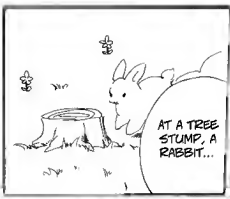

I WROTE, "I'M GOING WITH KAGA-SAN TO THIS CLUB'S NEW MEMBER'S TRAINING CAMP. BY THE WAY, IT'S FOR 2 DAYS AND 1 NIGHT".
THUMP
...WHAT DID MITSUO SAY?
I TOLD HIM, OR RATHER, I SENT HIM A TEXT.

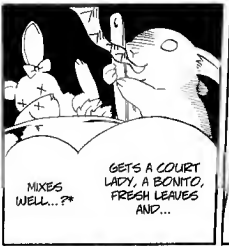
Yeah.
CLICK
CLICK
IT WAS GOING TO END UP LIKE THIS SOMETIME...
SFX: SHIMINE
I-IS THAT SO...
HE'S WORRIED ABOUT ME.
Well,
WHEN I SAW THIS, A PROVERB CAME TO MIND.
!!
WHAT WAS THAT...!?



SFX: BING BONG

*THAT SHOULD BE "WHEN YOU'RE CHASING 2 RABBITS, YOU WON'T GET EITHER OF THEM"





*THE PROVERB IS SUPPOSED TO BE: A MAN FINDS A DEAD RABBIT NEXT TO A TREE STUMP; AND SINCE HE IS TOO LAZY TO WORK, HE THINKS HE'LL FIND MORE IF HE JUST WAITS THERE; OF COURSE, HE DOESN'T FIND ANOTHER.

MITSUO! WHERE ARE YOU!
POW POW
IN OTHER WORDS!
RATHER THAN THAT KIND OF THING.
.....
Flutter, Flutter~
Please capture this one over here!
Something like this!
...TADA-KUN...
I did something stupid again...
DAMN!
SFX: WOOOOOOW
HUH?
BRAVO! YOUR EXPLANATION WAS AMAZING!

MITSUO'S PLACE
Whaat? Staying overnight with Kouko!?
IT'S A BIG ACCOMPLISH-MENT.
MITSUO'S WORRIED ABOUT WHERE I'M GOING...
IT MIGHT BE AS TADA-KUN SAYS.

Y-YEAH BUT...
BECAUSE I WAS MADE TO AGREE SO FORCEFULLY YESTERDAY...

...ACTUALLY, I DIDN'T REALLY WANT TO COME TODAY.
BUT I'M GLAD I DID.

RECOLLECTION
AND SOMEHOW ENDED UP IN CAFE AU LAIT BOWL
YESTERDAY WE FOLLOWED ● WOMEN'S UNI'S SENPAI...

EH? HOLD ON, HOLD ON, STOP!

You can eat from the afternoon until the evening, and it's like a banquet! The baths are large, so it is also really comfortable. On the next day, you can play stuff like tennis if you feel up to it. You'll come back around lunch time. And oh, it's fine, it's fine; since you're new, money isn't an issue...

SFX: NOD NOD

Firstly, you can get all your language credits in your first year! Then you can get a job! After that, those who'd like a boyfriend or girlfriend will be able to find one before summer! There's also a new member's recruitment camp, you know! We hold this each year at a seminar house that's 2 hours away by car...

SFX: NOD NOD

I WANTED TO GO ON A DRINKING CAMP WITH KAGA-SAN...
I KINDA WANTED TO TELL HER I WANTED TO LEAVE BUT...
WE CAN FINALLY LEAVE...!
SFX: SILENCE

YOU PROBABLY WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ALONE... LOOK.
DRINKING BY YOURSELF IS SO...
IF KAGA-SAN DID A LAST-MINUTE CANCELLATION ON ME... IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SO PAINFUL.
SHAKES
SHAKES

HUH?
OH?

AREN'T THOSE GUYS 1ST YEARS? MAYBE THEY'RE COMING ALONG TOO.

HUH?
MR. TWO DIMENSIONS! YOU'RE MR. TWO DIMENSIONS, RIGHT!?
SFX: ROLL ROLL
NO WAY, TADA BANRI?
Ooh!
COULD IT BE YOU'RE GOING TO THE NEW MEMBER'S CAMP?
SLAPS
Mr. Two Dimensions...?!

SFX: SMILE
ニコ
THIS IS KAGA KOUKO-SAN, OR KAGA-SAN.
NOPE, I'M WITH HER TODAY.
YEAH, WHAT AN UNEXPECTED ENCOUNTER. IS YANASSAN HERE TOO?
EH!?
This is Mr. Two Dimensions.
AH!
I'VE SEEN YOU IN CIVIL LAW CLASS.
I'VE SEEN IN MONDAY 1ST PERIOD ...
I'VE SEEN...
YOU.
UM.
I.
YOU...

Umph, hmph!!
I overslept a bit...
It's nothing like that.
MR. TWO DIMENSIONS... IS THE "TWO" PART YOUR LAST NAME?
SFX: SPEW
SFX: WHACK

THIS IS WHY I DON'T LIKE THREE-DIMENSIONAL THINGS! YOU PEOPLE ARE WEIRD! IDIOTS!
MR. TWO DIMENSIONS WAS A NICKNAME HE GOT WHEN HE ANNOUNCED HE WOULD BE LIVING IN THE TWO DIMENSIONAL WORLD AT THE TEA CEREMONY CLUB'S WELCOMING PARTY.
Aaaaah...
SFX: GIGGLE GIGGLE

YOU'VE MADE A COMEBACK TO THE THREE-DIMENSIONAL WORLD HAVEN'T YOU?
Finally? After all this time?
Fidget
Fidget
NO, UM... THE TWO-DIMENSIONAL WORLD CAN ALSO BE QUITE WEARISOME...

...WAIT, WHAT AM I SAYING...
IT'S OK, KEEP GOING, KEEP GOING.
THAT'S NOT IT! IT'S JUST THAT PURSUING MY PERFECT IDEAL FIGURE, EVEN IN THE TWO-DIMENSIONAL WORLD, IS JUST TOO DIFFICULT!

SFX: SCRIBBLE SCRIBBLE

!
THAT'S WHY I CREATED A WOMAN THAT FIT'S MY CRITERIA; I BECAME MORE AND MORE INVOLVED WITH HER THE MORE OUR RELATIONSHIP BECAME MORE INTIMATE.
IN OTHER WORDS, ANOTHER PERSON'S CREATION CANNOT FULFILL MY IDEAL 100% OF THE TIME.
Ah, alright?
CAPTIC
I will protect Takaya!

HUH... SHE UNDERSTOOD?
I SEE, SO IT'S LIKE THAT.
Isn't this something I shouldn't be talking about?
Eeep!
TO KAGA-SAN, IF IT'S "NOT MITSUO", SHE DOESN'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO THEM.
"WHY IS IT THAT NO ONE SEEMS TALKS TO ME? I WONDER?"
BUT NOW, I CAN CLEARLY SAY WHY.
Heh!
AH AH, HMM HMM.
NO...
FIDGET
FIDGET
SHE'S FINE WITH WHATEVER.

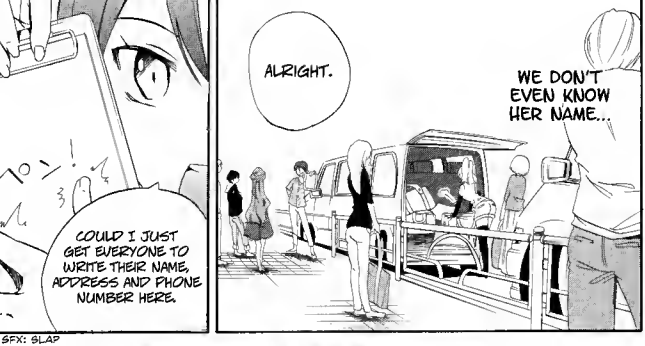
APART FROM THE EXISTENCE NAMED YANAGI-SAWA MITSUO, YOU HAVE NO INTEREST IN HUMAN BEINGS!
RIGHT!?
I won't let that continue, Kaga-san.
HMM...
HMM...?

SFX: PING

SFX: FLICKS
WITH A WOMAN YOU MADE YOURSELF... THAT'S LIKE
A ONE-DIMENSIONAL-KUN.
So it's like that..
Huh?

Oops...
HAA.
!!!
Who?
Eh?
A pity?
AHAHA, EVEN THOUGH THIS PERSON LOOKS LIKE THIS, SHE'S THAT KIND OF PERSON, ISN'T IT A PITY.
IS EVERYONE HERE GOING TO THE NEW MEMBER'S CAMP?
YEAH, UM, WE ARE...
HI, I'M TADA BANRI. AND THAT'S KAGA-SAN AND MR. TWO DIMENSIONS.

SFX: BEEP BEEP
SFX: CROWDING AROUND
SFX: BANG
EVERYONE GATHER!
OK, OK, OK! SORRY FOR BEING LATE!
THE SENPAI FROM ● WOMEN'S UNI.
EVEN THOUGH WE'VE KNOWN HER FOR A WHILE...

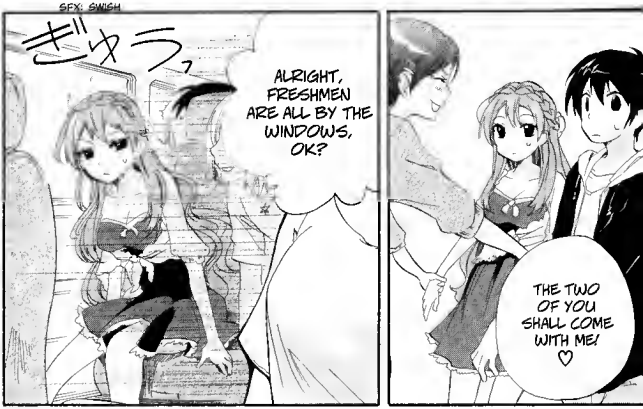

ALRIGHT.
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW HER NAME...
COULD I JUST GET EVERYONE TO WRITE THEIR NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER HERE.
SFX: SLAP

IF YOU LIVE BY YOURSELF, PLEASE ALSO PUT YOUR PARENT'S ADDRESS DOWN AS WELL, AS THESE PAPERS WILL BE USED AS INSURANCE DOCUMENTS.
Insurance...
TWIST TWIST
IT'S NEEDED IN CASE SOMETHING HAPPENS AT THE CAMP, AS WE ARE LIABLE FOR WHAT HAPPENS.

SFX HANDS OVER
SFX: SCRIBBLE SCRIBBLE
IT SEEMS EVERYONE HAS FINISHED WRITING.
PARKING HERE IS TROUBLESOME, SO PLEASE DO THIS AS FAST AS POSSIBLE.
SORRY, I WROTE IT QUICKLY, BUT YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO READ IT.

THANKS, EVERYONE.
SFX: RUSTLE
SFX: GRINS

YOU AND YOU, GET IN THE FRONT CAR.
YOU, OVER THERE.
YOU, THERE.


SFX: SWISH
ALRIGHT, FRESHMEN ARE ALL BY THE WINDOWS, OK?
THE TWO OF YOU SHALL COME WITH ME! ♡

WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT?
DO YOU NEED TO GO TO THE TOILET? WE'RE GOING ON THE HIGHWAY, SO WE'RE NOT TAKING ANY BREAKS IN BETWEEN.
ALL THE SENPAIS ARE WEARING THAT BUT... WH...
SFX: FLINCH
OK THEN, LET'S GO!
NOTHING AT ALL...
首都高
13号
台场
260m先左

!?
DRAFAL SHUTTER!

CHATTER CHATTER
CHATTER CHATTER
.....

2 HOURS LATER...
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
BANG

Well
Wow...
!

ALL SEX: PAT
I'm scared!
I'm scared, mommy!
I WAS...
UH, WAS LIKE A TOUCHING PUB"...
NO...
IT WAS LIKE A PUB WHERE "YOU" ARE TOUCHED!
I FEEL SOMEWHAT TIRED... WHAT ABOUT YOU, TADA-KUN?
EVEN THOUGH I WASN'T BORED...

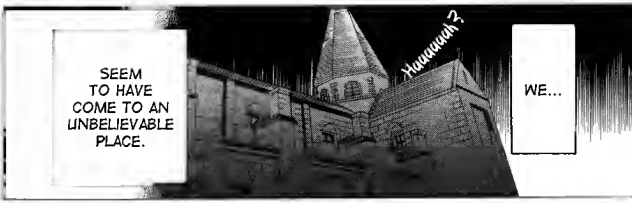
AN "OSAWARI PUB" (TOUCHING PUB) IS AN ADULT ESTABLISHMENT WHERE YOU ARE ABLE TO FONDLE THE HOSTESSES.

BUT COULD IT BE SO I WOULDN'T NOTICE IT...?
I'm feeling excited.
IT SEEMS KAGA-SAN DIDN'T NOTICE EITHER...
?
THAT ON OUR JOURNEY...
THE FACT THAT WE...
WENT PAST OUR UNIVERSITY BUILDING...
SFX: CREEEAK
ALL SFX: ROLL

...I DON'T THINK THAT'S THE CASE...
HUH?
...THIS IS...
ALL SFX: ROLL
IS THIS REALLY PART OF THAT CRUMBLING UNIVERSITY'S FACILITIES?
THIS PLACE SEEMS QUITE WELL MADE...
SFX: SLAM

WELCOME!
NEO-CHILDREN!
WHAT!?
Our God's current form
...HUH?
NEO?
SFX: LIGHT
Heu, heu, LET US heu! GREET YOU AGAIN!

BEHIND THIS SHRINE, YOU'LL BE REINCARNATED 20,000 YEARS INTO THE FUTURE!
SFX: AHAHAHAHAHA
TODAY WILL BE THE DAY YOU SHALL ALL BE AWAKENED!
Huh?
Huh?


Hauuuuuh?
WE...
SEEM TO HAVE COME TO AN UNBELIEVABLE PLACE.

Chapter 4: Rumble, Rumble, Rumble

... IN SHORT,
WE HAVE CALLED YOU HERE...
FOR THE SAKE OF OUR GOD, CRYSTAL SAMA.
THE POWER OF CRYSTAL SAMA IS...
SFX: SILENCE
SFX: INTENSELY
SFX: WHISPER
すぅ
いっ
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS... SHE'S BEEN TALKING LIKE THIS FOR 5 HOURS ALREADY...
HEY, TADA-KU...
HEEY! SHE'S STILL TALKING, ISN'T SHE?

SFX: GETS UP
ガタッ
WE'RE GOING TO CELEBRATE THE AWAKENING OF YOU NEW "CHILDREN".
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING! WE'RE JUST ABOUT TO START OUR DINNER PARTY!
UM... WE'RE ALREADY TIRED...

SFX: PUSHES
ギッ
I'LL PASS.
WHY DO THREE-DIMENSIONAL PEOPLE DO THESE USELESS THINGS? PLEASE GIVE BACK THE BELONGINGS I PUT IN YOUR CARE.

SFX: GRINS
SFX: CLACK CLACK
ガチャ
ガチャ
ニヤ〜
!?
SO, HOW ABOUT WE START EATING?

SFX: YANK
グイッ
EH, AH.
LET'S GO, TADA BANRI.

DIDN'T I TELL YOU I WASN'T INTERESTED?
NO WAY.
WE STILL HAVEN'T TOLD YOU ABOUT THE SECRET BEHIND CRYSTAL-SAMA'S BIRTH YET.
SFX: SIGH

WHY DON'T WE JUST EAT NOW AND THINK ABOUT IT LATER..
DON'T MAKE SUCH A FUSS MR. TWO DIMENSIONS.

LISTEN.
IF YOU ACT SO UNTACTFULLY, YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY MIGHT DO, SO BE MORE MATURE FOR NOW...
STEP STEP STEP
BANRI...!

WITH A BIT OF PATIENCE, WE CAN STILL LEAVE PEACEFULLY.
THAT'S RIGHT! EVEN IN THE WORST CASE, WE'LL ONLY BE STAYING HERE FOR 2 DAYS AND A NIGHT.
すいっ
WE CAN ALL STILL EAT TOGETHER, RIGHT?

SFX: INTENSELY

UNFORTUNATELY, WE ENDED UP HERE ON SEMPAI'S SUGGESTION BUT,
SINCE WE CAN'T GO BACK, WHY NOT JUST RIDE IT OUT?
THEN, KAGA-SAN WILL....

SFX: CHILL...
SFX: FLINCH

Crystal-sama!!
Crystal-sama!!
LOVE
CRYSTAL-SAMA

AAH, DON'T MAKE THAT FACE, IT'S ALRIGHT. WHY'RE YOU ALL AVOIDING US?
HEY "NEO-CHILD"?

EVEN THOUGH CRYSTAL-SAMA WILL DEFINITELY SAVE US ALL.
WHAT BULLSHIT!! WHAT CRYSTAL-SAMA!?
SFX: SLAM
SFX: STANDS
UM...
TADA-KUN...!
YOU LIED TO US!
THAT'S RIGHT! GET THE CAR HERE RIGHT AWAY!!
I WANT TO GO HOME!

JUST WHAT ON EARTH SHOULD I DO?
I'LL SUE YOU!
DON'T JOKE WITH ME!

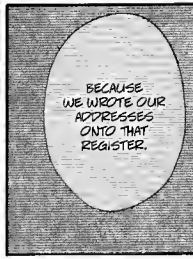
BUT EVEN IF WE ESCAPE, IT'LL BE POINTLESS.
WHAT KIND OF THING DOES TADA BANRI DO?

AT SUCH A TIME...
IF IT FAILS, WE RUN FOR IT.

BOW
WHAT IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO?
NO, I SHALL PROSTRATE MYSELF SO PLEASE LET US RETURN.

LET'S JUST BEAR WITH IT.

EVERYONE... CALM DOWN FIRST...


BECAUSE WE WROTE OUR ADDRESSES ONTO THAT REGISTER.

LET US BEGIN THE DINNER PARTY, SHALL WE?
PEOPLE WHO WANT TO GO HOME CAN GO HOME.
SFX: WHOOSH
SFX: EXCITED
DIDN'T EVERY-ONE HEAR ABOUT HOW INCREDIBLE CRYSTAL-SAMA IS?!
DOESN'T IT SEEM LIKE A LOT OF FUN!
HUH!? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
OH MY, HOW SCARY.
AH
HUH!?
SEMPAI! I DON'T LIKE THESE PEOPLE, THEY'RE BOTH-ERING ME!
SFX: STARTLE

SENPAI!
RIGHT?
SFX: SQUEEZE
PEOPLE WHO WANT TO LEAVE SHOULD HURRY UP AND LEAVE! ONLY THE "CHILDREN" CAN HAVE FUN HERE!
SFX: WHISPER
WANT TO BE SAVED BY CRYSTAL-SAMA.
YEAH, BECAUSE I..
LEAVE ONLY YOU?
TELL EVERYONE TO GO?
SFX: SLAP

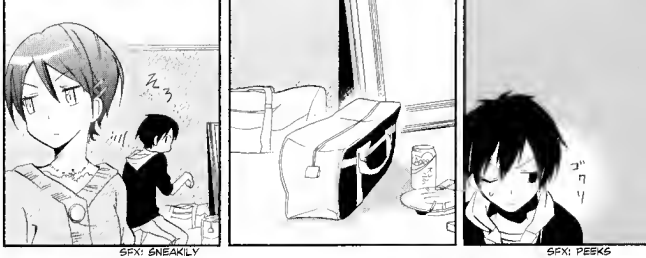
WAS CRITICALLY INJURED IN HIGH SCHOOL...
ACTU-ALLY I...

MY MEMORIES...
COMPLETELY FLEW OUT THE WINDOW.
THEY TOLD ME I HAD MEMORY LOSS.
AS A RESULT, I'VE BEEN SUFFERING FOR A LONG TIME.
NO FAMILY, OR FRIENDS, OR ACQUAINTANCES.
WHEN I OPENED MY EYES, I FOUND MYSELF IN A WORLD WHERE I DID NOT KNOW ANYONE.

SFX: WAAH

*HE SAYS "MY HOUSE" IN THE SHIZUOKA DIALECT BUT I THINK HIS [illegible] CAN BE ALSO TAKEN AS HIS "SITUATION", WELL THE MAIN POINT IS IT'S IN THE SHIZUOKA DIALECT AND NOT WHAT YOU'D NORMALLY USE, THIS IS WHY THEY REPEAT IT IN THE BOTTOM LEFT BOX

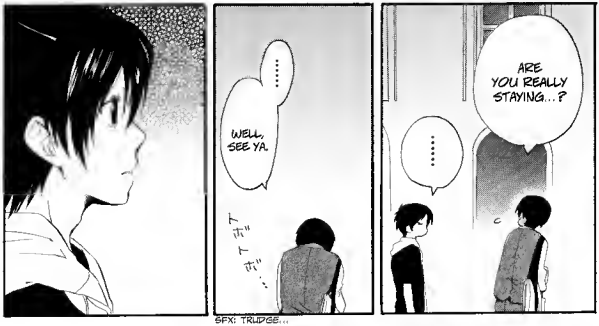
SFX: HEHEHEHEHE...
I-IT'S ALRIGHT...
MY THIGHS ALSO HAVE SOME NICE ONES... HUH? YOU WANT TO HAVE A LOOK?
IF YOU WANT, YOU CAN EVEN CONFIRM IT WITH WHERE I WAS HOSPITALIZED.
SFX: CLACK CLACK
HE'S THE ONE CHOSEN BY GOD; THOSE WHO AREN'T INTERESTED MAY GO BACK.
HEY, EVERYONE. IS IT CLEAR NOW?
SFX: SHUFFLE SHUFFLE
WELL THEN...
THOSE RETURNING, PLEASE GRAB YOUR BELONGINGS.
SFX: CLICK
ONLY THE "CHILDREN" ARE ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN THE MORE INTIMATE SECTION AHEAD.

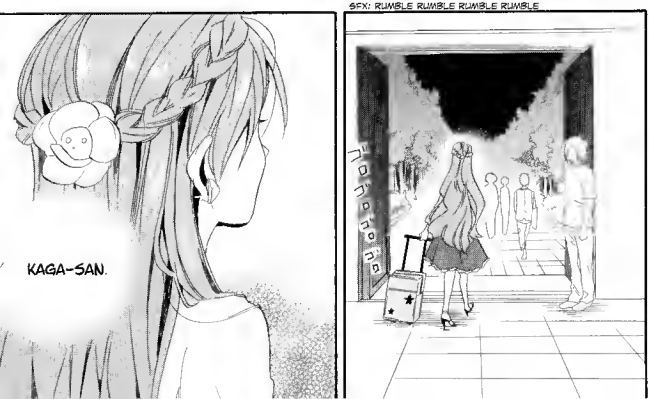

SFX: SNEAKILY
SFX: PEEKS

TADA-KUN.
AREN'T YOU COMING BACK WITH ME, TADA-KUN?
SFX: GRAB
SFX: TURNS

I WON-DER WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM...
AH.

BANRI.
SFX: SHUFFLE SHUFFLE


WELL, SEE YA.
トボトボ…
ARE YOU REALLY STAYING…?
SFX: TRUDGE…
SFX: RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE


KAGA-SAN.
ゴロゴロゴロ

PLEASE GET HOME SAFELY.
SLAM
UM, UFAI
HEY, TADA-KUN.
AND THEN IT SEEMS I'M BY MYSELF
WHEN KAGA-SAN GAVE ME THAT LOOK, I REGRETTED COMING HERE SO MUCH.
IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO KAGA-SAN, IT WOULD BE MY RESPONSIBILITY
Well now, let's go eat
THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE NIGHT, OK!?
FROM NOW ON, WE'LL BE TALK-ING ABOUT THE MYSTERIES OF CRYSTAL-SAM A'S BIRTH...

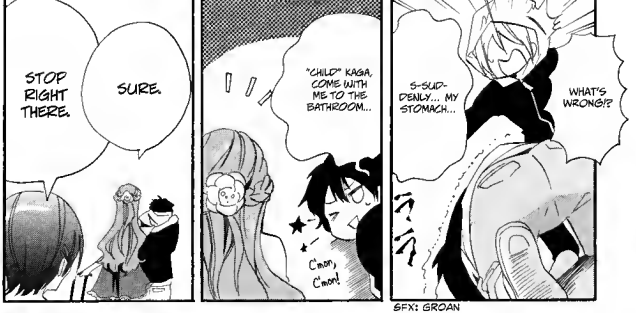
THROUGH-OUT... THE WHOLE NIGHT...?
THAT'S RIGHT.
GRABS
RUMBLE...
W-WAIT A SEC...
UNTIL IT SEEPS DEEP INTO YOUR BODY...
SFX: BATHUMP
HUH?
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
SFX: CREAK
SFX: RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE
SFX: RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE
NO, THAT'S...
ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴ
キィイイィ...
WHAT'S THIS?
A STORM?

HELLO!
NEO-CHILDREN
ばーん*

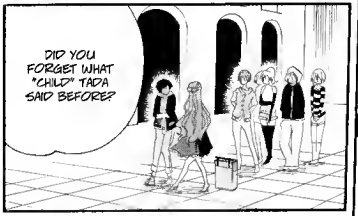
SFX: BANG

Eeeeeeeh!
THAT LECTURE FROM BEFORE LEFT A DEEP IMPRESSION ON ME.
KAGA-SAN...!?

WHAT'S SHE DOING!?
I'M FED UP WITH THIS ERA ALREADY.
WHAT IS SHE SAYING!?
Haah
THOUGH I MAY BE BEAUTIFUL, I AM NOT POPULAR.
I, KAGA KOUKO...
WILL EMBRACE THE COMING OF THE NEW ERA!!
SFX: TEEHEE
SFX: FALLS
SHE'S SERIOUSLY AN IDIOT, ISN'T SHE!? ...IF IT'S LIKE THIS, IT CAN'T BE HELPED!
ARGH!
SFX: WOOOOOOW


WHAT'S WRONG!?
S-SUDDENLY... MY STOMACH...
SFX: GROAN
"CHILD" KAGA, COME WITH ME TO THE BATHROOM...
C'mon, C'mon!
SURE.
STOP RIGHT THERE.

WAIT A MOMENT.

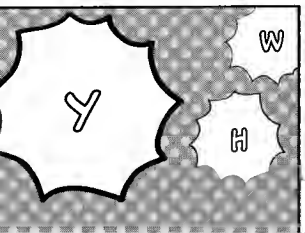

DID YOU FORGET WHAT "CHILD" TADA SAID BEFORE?

HE HAS LOST HIS MEMORIES!
Oh

THERE IS NO NEED FOR THE GIRL TO COME WITH YOU.
ARGH.. IT SEEMS THIS WON'T WORK...
IF YOU NEED SOMEONE, I'LL COME WITH YOU.

SFX: SHOCK

SFX: CLICK



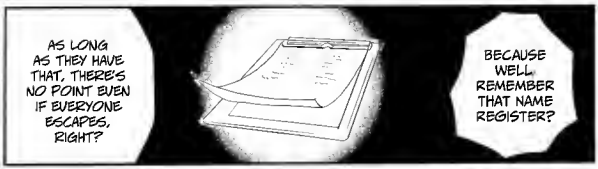
ばしっ

SFX: SLAPS

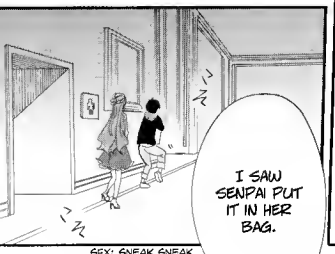
THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE MY LINE.

DID YOU COME BACK!?
COULD IT BE YOU ACTUALLY WANT TO BE "AWAKENED"!?

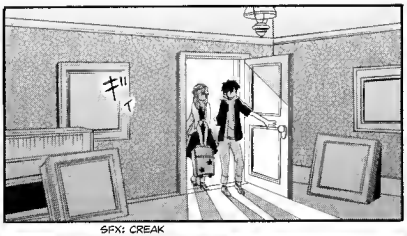
IT'S MY FAULT WE GOT INTO THIS SITUATION...
I CAN'T JUST LEAVE YOU BY YOURSELF.



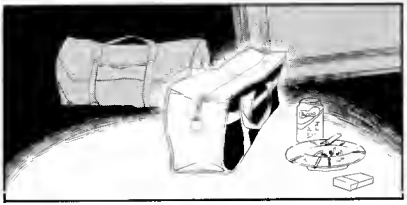
SFX: CREAK

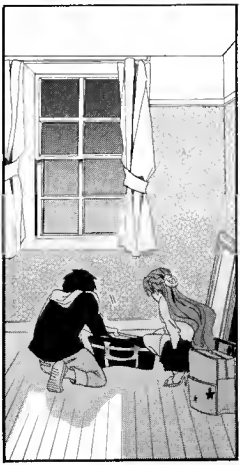


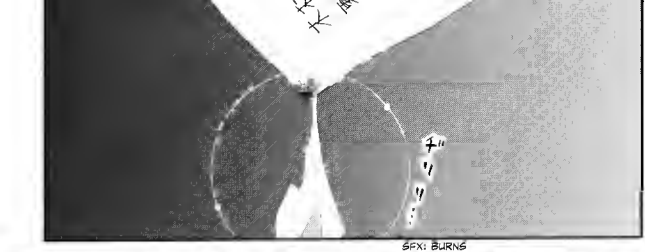
SFX: SNEAK SNEAK



SFX: CREAK







SFX: BURNS

SFX: BURN BURN

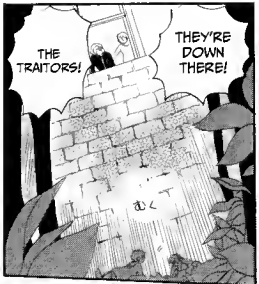
SFX: CREAK

SFX: FLINGS
YOU TRAITORS ...!
SFX: CHARGE
KYA!

SFX: SEP
SFX: OPENS
LET'S ESCAPE FROM HERE.
WHAT ABOUT THE VALUABLES?
I'VE GOT THEM ALL.

THE TERROR FROM THAT TIME
STILL REMEM-BERS...
MY BODY
Hey, you!!
MOVE
MOVE IT!
Where do you think you're going?
WHY!
AT THIS TIME!

SQUEEZES
THEY RAN AWAY!!
SP
HUH



SFX: GETS UP

SFX: THUMP

SFX: RUSTLE RUSTLE

Chapter 5: K.O. in the Forest at Night

ON THIS MOUNTAIN PATH WHERE MOBILE SIGNALS DON'T REACH, ALL WE CAN RELY ON ARE...
THE STREET LIGHTS UPON THE ROADS.
SFX: RUSTLE

SFX: RUSTLE

BUT EVEN THOSE SOON BECAME TOO DISTANT TO SEE.

IT HAS BEEN ALMOST 2 HOURS SINCE WE ESCAPED FROM THAT SUSPICIOUS FACILITY.

AS LONG AS WE GO DOWN, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO REACH THE BASE OF THE MOUNTAIN.
SFX: CRUNCH
SFX: HUFF HUFF
IF ONLY.. IF ONLY WE COULD USE OUR MOBILES...
SFX: GULP
GASP
GASP
T-TADA-KUN...
SFX: CRUNCH CRUNCH
HUH? OH.
TADA-KUN!
S-SORRY!

COULD WE TAKE A LITTLE REST...?
WAIT, KAGA-SAN! YOU'RE BARE-FOOTED!?
ひぃあ
HUH?
SFX: AAH
H-HERE, TAKE MINE IF YOU DON'T MIND.
ずいっ
SFX: PASS

.....
WON'T....
WON'T YOU GET INJURED, THEN?

IT'S MY FAULT THAT KAGA-SAN IS TROUBLED...
EVEN THOUGH I SHOULD BE MORE RELIABLE AT TIMES LIKE THESE...
AAH...
I'LL DEFINITELY MANAGE SOME-HOW, SO DON'T WORRY...
IT'S FINE, KAGA-SAN.
C.C.C.
!
TADA-KUN...
SORRY.

AFTER ALL, GETTING INTO THIS SITUATION IS MY FAULT, ISN'T IT?
Eh
ONLY CAME ALONG BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT YOU FELT SORRY THAT I WAS BY MYSELF.
N-NO, THAT'S NOT IT.
BECAUSE YOU...
ぎゅっ
SFX: SQUEEZE
IF I WEREN'T HOLDING THAT CLUB'S LEAFLET, THAT GIRL WOULDN'T HAVE SPOKEN TO US.
BECAUSE YOU.

I... JUST THOUGHT THAT IT'D BE NICE TO BE FRIENDS WITH YOU...
EVEN THOUGH I FELT THAT THERE WAS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT CLUB, I STILL URGED YOU ON.
THAT'S WHY IT WAS MY FAULT, SORRY.
YOU'RE WRONG.
I'M NOT WRONG.
I SAID YOU'RE WRONG...
I SAID I'M NOT.
I'M NOT.
YOU ARE.
SFX. WHOOSH

SFX: SMACK!
ベラレー!!
I TOLD YOU YOU'RE WRONG ALREADY!
OW.
IT WAS MY FAULT!
I WAS ONLY APPROACHING YOU SO I COULD GET INFORMATION ON MITSUO!
SFX: SNOOSH
THAT CLUB THING DIDN'T MATTER AT ALL.

NOT BEING INVITED TO A CLUB. BEING IGNORED BY THE OTHER STUDENTS.
NONE OF THAT
MATTERED.
AM I REALLY THAT WEIRD...?
I JUST PRETENDED I WAS SAD...
SO THAT I COULD GET TADA-KUN TO SYMPATHIZE WITH ME...

I JUST NOTICED THE LONELY KAGA-SAN.
I DIDN'T REALLY MIND.
Ahaha
I TALKED TO YOU KNOWING THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE CASE.
HUH, AH,
IS THAT SO?
I know
I know
I know
I know
YEAH.
SO IT REALLY WAS FOR YANASSAN?

ALL SFX: STAB

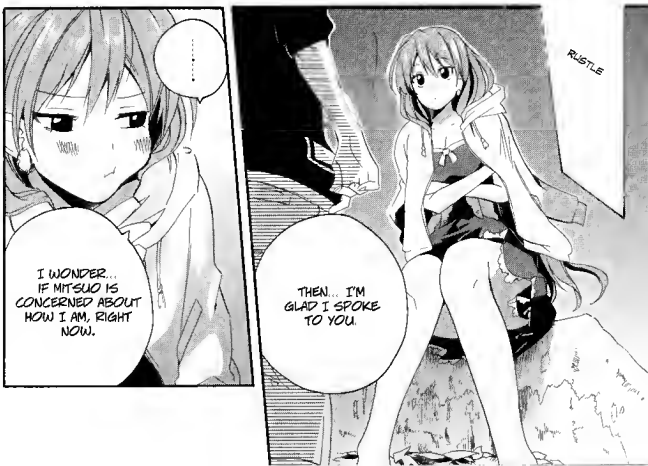
.....
shudder
shudder
Even though
I know
FOR THE SAKE OF MITSUO.

THAT WAS 90 PERCENT OF IT.
THA—
...THE REMAINING 10 PERCENT...

I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND, MYSELF.
ALL I KNOW IS THAT... FROM WHEN THAT SPRING CAME UNTIL YESTERDAY, THERE WAS...
ONLY ONE PERSON IN THE WHOLE WORLD WHO I'D LISTEN TO.
EVEN I... FIND IT HARD TO UNDERSTAND...
Kaga-san
What are you doing?

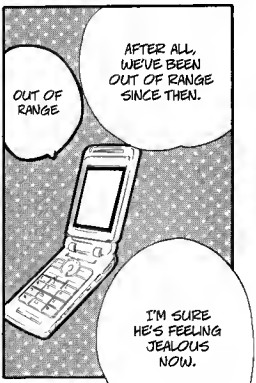
BUT WHEN TADA-KUN TALKED TO ME...
...I WAS GLAD.
REALLY.

Huh?
Huh?
Oh?
くちゅん
SFX: ACHOO


RUSTLE
THEN... I'M GLAD I SPOKE TO YOU.
I WONDER... IF MITSUO IS CONCERNED ABOUT HOW I AM, RIGHT NOW.

BEATS ME. I MEAN, I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM HIM SINCE HE ASKED WHERE WE WERE STAYING.
……
Dang it Gosh
しゅうん
おしし
SFX: DROPS
SFX: CRESTFALLEN

SOMETHING LIKE, "BECAUSE I'VE BEEN IGNORING KAGA-SAN, SHE'S NOW IN A DANGEROUS SITUATION…".
…UM
ワナ
ワナ
JUST HOW PRECIOUS YOU ARE…
AND THEN, HE'LL REALIZE…
FINGER SFX: SHAKE SHAKE


AFTER ALL, WE'VE BEEN OUT OF RANGE SINCE THEN.
OUT OF RANGE
I'M SURE HE'S FEELING JEALOUS NOW.

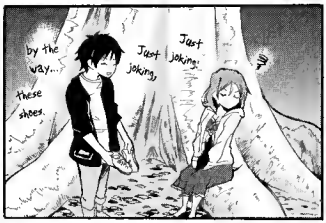
SFX: KACHIING
NO WAY!
THAT KIND OF DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE SO GOOD!
"THAT GIRL IS SURELY MY DESTINED WIFE!"
"BUT"
"I'VE THOUGHT SHE WAS A STALKER BEFORE..."
SFX: CRUNCH
THIS IS YANASSAN.
ROAR, ROOO-OOOAR!!
ばーん
SFX: TADAAA
UH
AND THEN? AND THEN?

Hehehe!
Hahaha!
YANAUO!!
KYAA!
Let me join too!
Ugyaa!
AND THEN I APPEAR!
ROAR, GRRR, WOOOOF!
GROWL, WOOF!
GRRR, GRRR, RUFF...!
Kyaaa
A ha ha!

KYA! AHAHA...

AND WHEN HE SEES YOU, BANG!

SFX: WHACK


By the way... these shoes.
Just joking.
Just joking.

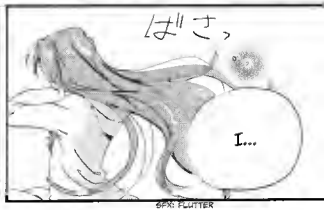
Wait a minute.
WASN'T THAT TOO MEAN JUST THEN?

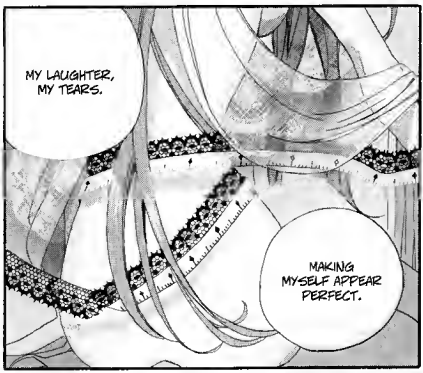
...I WONDER IF YANASSAN...

KNOWS ABOUT THIS SIDE OF YOU.
SFX: SNAP
YOU'RE LIKE A DIFFERENT PERSON...
WHEN YANASSAN ISN'T AROUND.
.....
IF...
I SEEM DIFFERENT...

EACH DAY EVEN BEGINS WITH MITSUO.
I DO NOT REALLY EXIST WHEN MITSUO IS NOT AROUND.
SFX: TWISTS

THAT'S BECAUSE I'M MY TRUE SELF WHEN WITH MITSUO.
THAT IS THE REAL ME.


はさっ
I...
SFX: FLUTTER


MY LAUGHTER, MY TEARS.
MAKING MYSELF APPEAR PERFECT.

MAKING MYSELF FASHIONABLE.

MY EVERY GOAL IS DRIVEN BY MITSUO.
I CAN'T HELP BUT CHASE AFTER HIM.
THERE'S NOTHING ELSE THAT I CAN THINK OF DOING.
THAT'S WHAT I'VE ALWAYS BEEN DOING...
FOR COUNTLESS YEARS.
LIKE AN IDIOT... DON'T YOU THINK?
Twirl

SFX: SURPRISE

TH-THAT'S MITSUO'S FAULT!
MITSUO
SFX: SMACK
THAT KIND OF THING
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, IT WAS YOUR FAULT.
BUT! THAT'S BECAUSE, WELL, I MEAN, LISTEN TO MY SIDE OF THE STORY!
ALL SFX: SHAKE

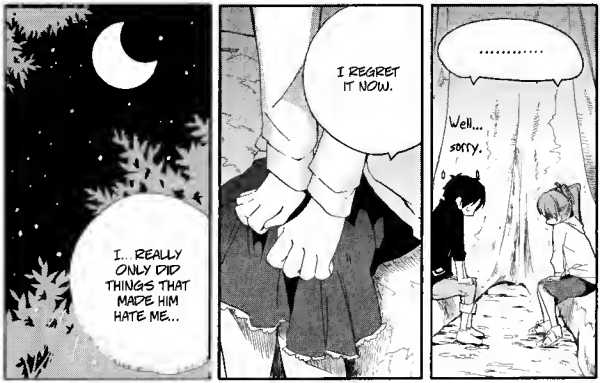
MITSUO TOLD ME THAT HE'D BE CONTINUING HIS HIGHER EDUCATION AT OUR CURRENT SCHOOL.
There's still 9 months left, right?
I'M ALSO CONTINUING TO UNIVERSITY AT THIS SCHOOL...
FROM THEN ON, I PRETENDED I WAS TRICKED...
I FOUND THAT IT WAS A LIE NEAR THE END OF THE YEAR...

ALTHOUGH I DID GET CALLED BACK TWICE OVER SUSPICIONS OF HAVING TAKEN THE ENTRANCE EXAM FOR SOMEONE ELSE.
LIKE I'D DO THAT! I SECRETLY DISGUISED MYSELF AND APPLIED FOR THE SAME UNIVERSITY AS MITSUO!
Wait you!
Actually, I'm the same..
It's a wig...
EVERYDAY, I WOULD WATCH HIM AT EVERY MOMENT.
EVERYDAY...
EVERYDAY...
JUST LIKE THAT, I CONTINUED TO DECEIVE MITSUO.

I'LL HAND THIS OVER AND IT'LL BE MY K.O.!!
ON THE DAY OF THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY
MY SCENARIO ISN'T QUITE DEAD YET.
TO THE VERY END MITSUO DIDN'T SAY A THING.
SFX: SWISH SWISH
MITSUO...?
MITSUO!
SFX: BAM
Like this!
IMAGINING THE SOUNDS
Nah-ah.
Yeah!

SFX: FLINCH
ビクウ
ぐわ
THAT'S WHEN
I EXPLODED!!
SFX: ROAR

I JUST COULDN'T HANDLE IT ANYMORE.
ボゴ
ボゴ
WHEN I SAW YOUR FACES...
SFX: WHACK
SFX: WHACK

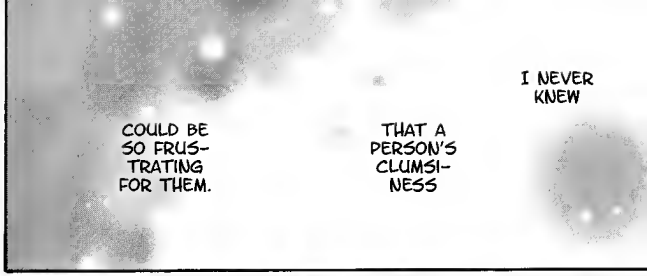

I... REALLY ONLY DID THINGS THAT MADE HIM HATE ME...
I REGRET IT NOW.
.....
Well... sorry.

BACK THEN.. IF ONLY I COULD HAVE KISSED HIM ON THE CHEEK, INSTEAD.
THEN, MAYBE HE WOULDN'T SO COMPLETELY HATE AND IGNORE ME..
HE SURELY WOULDN'T HAVE, RIGHT?
MY THOUGHTS EXACTLY.
IT'S JUST AS YOU SAY.
RATHER THAN A GIRL WHO HITS PEOPLE WITH ROSES...

THE GIRL WHO IS CURRENTLY IN FRONT OF ME...
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT, AREN'T I?

A TRILLION TIMES MORE CHARMING...
A BILLION TIMES...
IS A MILLION TIMES...

Chapter 6 Barbara


I NEVER KNEW
THAT A PERSON'S CLUMSI-NESS
COULD BE SO FRUS-TRATING FOR THEM.

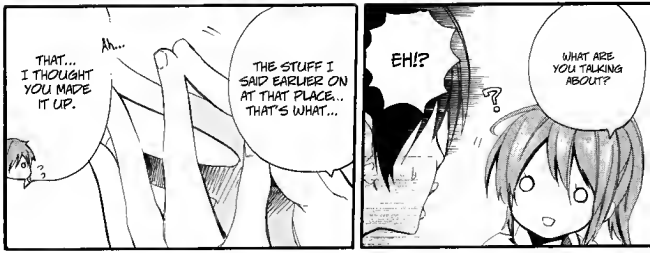
SFX: PSSK

UH...
I THINK THAT...
THERE ARE VERY FEW PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD WHO ACTUALLY GET ALONG WELL.
COULD IT BE THAT I REALLY AM AN IDIOT...?
mutter
mutter
mutter

SPEAKING OF WHICH, DOES TADA-KUN...
...YEAH.
RIGHT?
SFX: RUSTLE
HAVE A GIRLFRIEND?
DO YOU HAVE...
A PERSON YOU LIKE?

SFX: SLAP

SFX: SIGH



MEMORY LOSS
...WAS IT?
.....
.....
Hmmmm...
...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...
AHAHA, INDEED.
I DON'T REALLY KNOW EITHER.
I WAS ONLY TOLD THAT SHORTLY AFTER MY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY...
I FELL FROM A BRIDGE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD...
From a bridge...

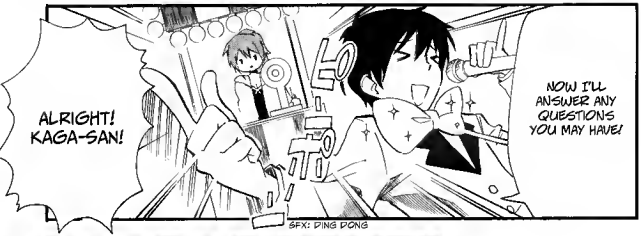
BUT STUFF LIKE WORDS AND LANGUAGE - I COULD STILL REMEMBER SUCH BASIC KNOWLEDGE.
Like historical figures...
or the names of things...
stuff like that.

NOTE: LOU OOSHIBA IS A JAPANESE ACTOR AND COMEDIAN.

I WOULDN'T REMEMBER IT.
BUT YOU KNOW...
HOWEVER...
UM..
AH, MY BAD.
TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING SO MEANINGLESS...
SOMETIMES, MY FEELINGS SEEM TO
SLOWLY AND STEADILY RETURN.
IT'S LIKE A NOSTALGIC FEELING...

IF I HADN'T TOLD YOU NOW, THEN WHENEVER WE MET AGAIN...
I'D REGRET NOT HAVING DONE SO.

SFX: WHOOSH



SFX: DING DONG

SINCE IF I REMEMBERED MY PAST SELF, MY PARENTS WOULD BE HAPPIER.
THERE ARE TIMES WHEN I THINK THAT. HOWEVER...
YEAH...
IF I THINK OF IT AS AN EXCHANGE SO THAT THE CURRENT ME CAN EXIST, I'M SATISFIED.
?
BECAUSE...
I WANT TO EXPERIENCE MORE...
ALONGSIDE KAGA-SAN!..

I WANT TO ENJOY MY UNIVERSITY LIFE MORE WITH THE LIKES OF YANASSAN AND MR. TWO DIMENSIONS!
YEAH.
ME TOO.

I WONDER WHAT KIND OF PERSON WAS THE TADA BANRI WHO DISAPPEARED...
I KNOW THIS IS A REALLY WEIRD THING TO SAY BUT...
PERHAPS...
rustle
rustle
HE'S WATCHING OVER THE CURRENT TADA-KUN AS WE SPEAK.
LIKE A GUARDIAN ANGEL...

AH, AH, LOOK!
SOMETHING LIT UP FOR A SECOND JUST THEN...
HUH? WHAT WAS THAT? COULD IT BE...!?
SFX: GHOOK

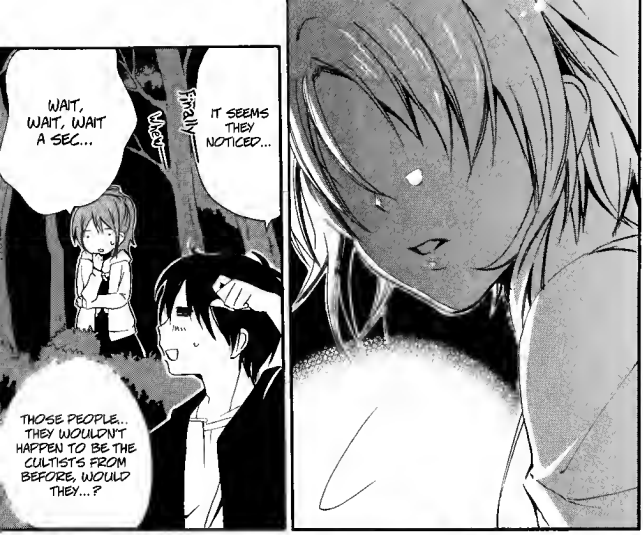
LET'S CALL FOR HELP!
Y-YOU'RE RIGHT! SOMEONE'S THERE!

SFX: RUSTLE RUSTLE
CAN YOU RUN?
YEAH!
EXCUSE MEEE!!
HELP US.
PLEASE.
HEY!

THEY MIGHT BE TOO FAR AWAY TO HEAR...
huff
WE'RE! LOST!!

GASA RUSTLE
HEY!!
OVER HERE!
GASA RUSTLE
HE—
AH, THEY'RE COMING!

I AM! OVER HERE!!


IT SEEMS THEY NOTICED...
FINALLY WAKE
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT A SEC...
THOSE PEOPLE, THEY WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO BE THE CULTISTS FROM BEFORE, WOULD THEY...?

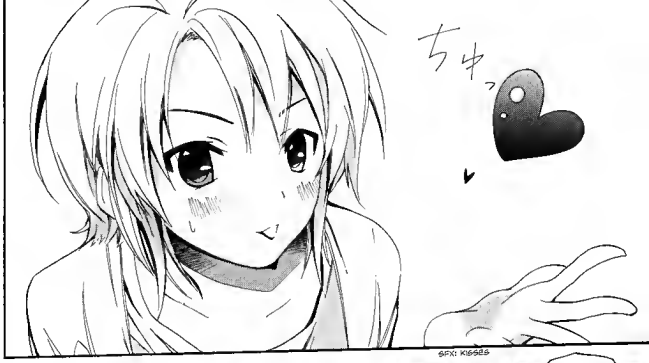
ALL SFX: RUSTLE

EEEEEEH, WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
THAT CERTAINLY, DEFINITELY, ABSOLUTELY, CAN'T BE, RIGHT!?
EVEN THOUGH WE FINALLY RAN AWAY...
WHAT SHOULD WE DO...

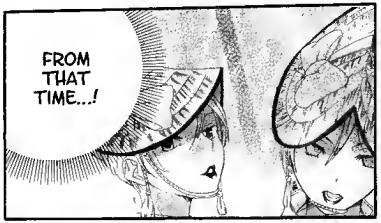
ALL SFX: RUSTLE

SFX: THUMP
SFX: RUSTLE
WHAT SHOULD WE...
SFX: BA-DUMP
ドキ

SFX: HUFF
はぁ
BANRI!
IT'S ME!
ME! YOU KNOW!?
THINK ABOUT IT! REMEMBER!
HUH?
THIS PERSON...
WHO WAS SHE...?
Hm


ちゅっ

SFX: KISSES


FROM THAT TIME...!

Y-YOU ARE...

IT'S LINDA!
WELL, ANYHOW, WE GOT RESCUED.

BARBARA...?

あとがき
afterword

To everyone who picked up this first volume of the manga version of Golden Time:
Thank you so very much indeed!
I have the honor of being the writer of the original work (which is published in Dengeki Bunko), Takemiya Yuyuko, and I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for having read up until this page.
To Umechazuke-sensei, Komatsu Eeji-sensei, all the editorial staff, and above all, our valued readers: I hope that your moment with this manga has indeed been, a "golden time"; I know mine certainly has. Thank you very much for your continued support; both of this and of the original work!

竹宮ゆゆこ
TAKEMIYA YUYUKO

梅ちゃづけ
UMECHAZUKE

DENGEKI COMICS

ゴールデンタイム①

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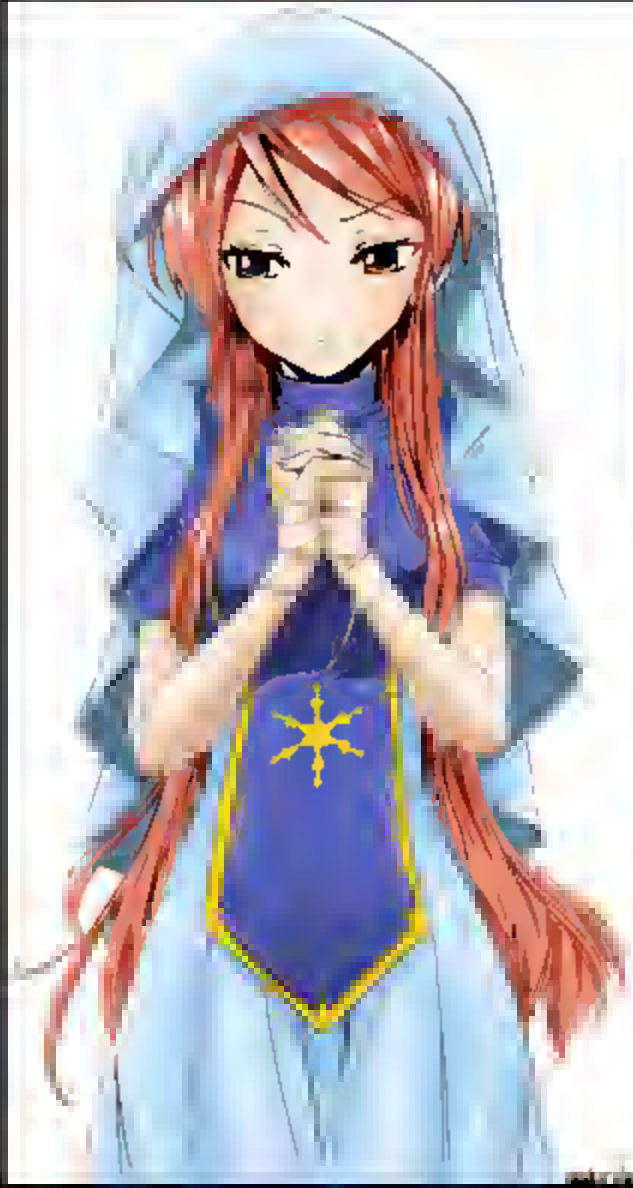

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